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**SPORTS REVIEW**

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MAKES THE MOST OF  
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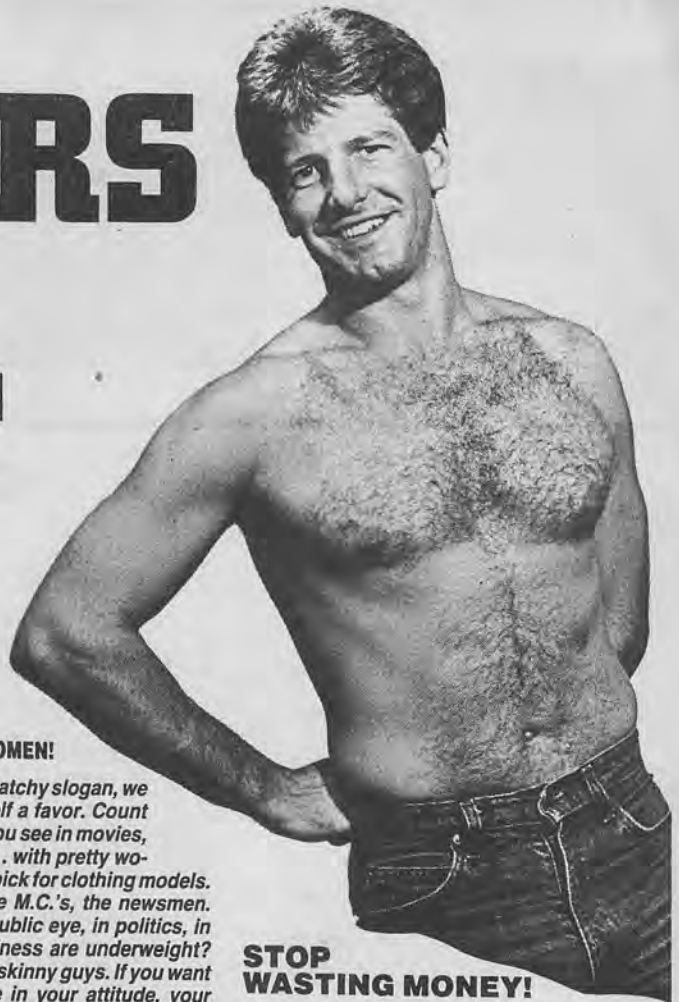
Skinny men are not great lovers. That's a known fact. Add a few pounds and you'll be amazed how it will improve your love-life. Women know this and are conscious of the fact that skinny men can't go the distance. The race is to the strong, the saying goes. And the fellow who is handsomest doesn't look like a stand-in for the family skeleton. Many a man found that gaining a few more pounds has helped him overcome chronic illness, major or minor. Many a doctor has prescribed gaining weight. But so little is publicized about skinny men. The great amount of publicity given to coronary problems has brought the bulk of weight attention to those men who weigh too much. Men who weigh too little never really get equal time. But their problem is no less serious.

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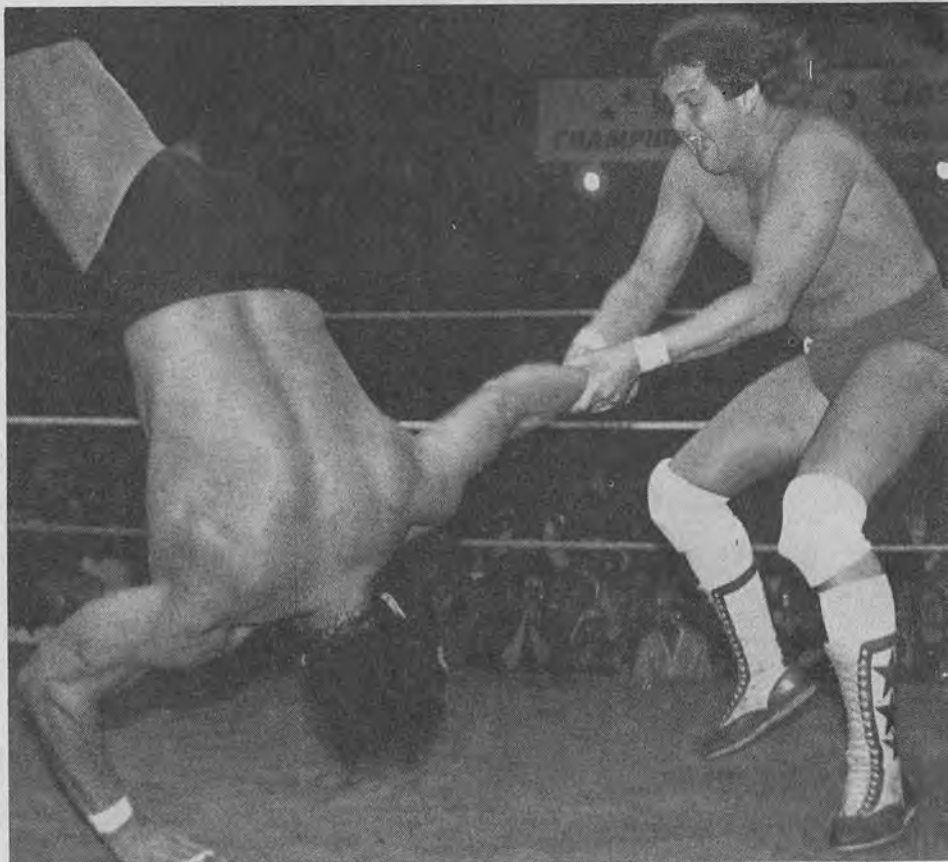
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Al Perez acrobatically flips over to avoid the pain of a Chris Adams arm twist. Perez and Adams are among the wrestlers responsible for the resurgence of the World Class area, according to Autumn Hess.

## WORLD CLASS RESURGENCE

I wonder if anybody besides myself has noticed how much better the World Class area has gotten. It has always been a good organization, but it has improved tremendously over the past couple of months.

Much of this credit has to go to the large pool of talent World Class has drawn in, with men like Chris Adams (who has been here before, but is better than ever) and The Real Thing. Plus there's the Wild West Wrestling Federation, which has joined with World Class to provide the fans with even more exciting matches. Wild West wrestlers include The Missing Link, Iceman Parsons, Terry Gordy, "Wild" Bill Irwin, Jack Victory, and John Tatum. They are just a few of the men who have been appearing on World Class cards.

Last, but not least, there's Kerry Von Erich, who is officially back from his accident. And let's not forget The Fantastics, who just came back from an extensive world tour.

I've always liked World Class, but

now I like it even more. The action is just great and the crowds are getting larger with each card. Remember the 43,000-plus fans who packed Texas Stadium to see Kerry beat Ric Flair for the NWA World title during the Parade of Champions in 1984? Well, I predict that World Class will soon be drawing those kinds of crowds again, maybe during the 1988 Parade of Champions. *That's* how good World Class has gotten.

AUTUMN HESS  
Texarkana, TX

## RANDOM THOUGHTS

I love pro wrestling and would like to comment on some of the things happening in the sport today.

First, congratulations to Owen Hart, Jimmy Hart, and The Midnight Express on their individual achievements for 1987; they were each deserving of their 1987 *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* Achievement '87 awards.

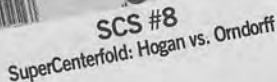
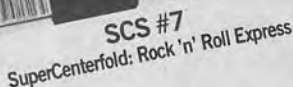
The Jumping Bomb Angels are probably the most exciting ladies tag

(Continued on page 48)



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# THE TATTLER

**G**REENSBORO, NC: Despite a severe eye injury suffered by Road Warrior Animal in a strength competition against The Warlord and Konga the Barbarian here, manager Paul Ellering has vowed that The Road Warriors will win the \$1 million Crockett Cup tag team tournament in 1988.

"This is no longer a matter of proving who's best or who's strongest," said Ellering. "This is revenge. Nobody does to 'The Legion of Doom' what those two bums did, and the best way to get revenge is to kick their butts, win the Crockett Cup again, and shove the million bucks down their damn throats!"

The Warriors won the first Crockett



**ROAD WARRIOR ANIMAL**

ett Cup in 1986, but came up short in the semifinals last year. The third Crockett Cup tournament is scheduled for April 22 in Greenville, South Carolina, and April 23 at the Greensboro Coliseum.

Animal was injured while trying to bench-press 600 pounds in the competition. Ivan Koloff, watching the competition with Warlord, Konga, and manager Paul Jones, tossed a box of chalk powder at Hawk. Warlord then smashed Animal's head into the weights. Animal suffered a fracture of the bones surrounding the eye socket, and the eye itself was moved a quarter-inch back in the socket. Animal, Hawk, and Ellering were left lying on the arena floor while Jones walked away with the \$50,000 that was supposed to go to the winner.

Days later, surgery was performed on Animal's left eye to reconstruct the orbital rim from the inside out. Part of the sinus bone was used to rebuild the orbital rim, and 30 stitches were needed to close the area inside the sinus region. At press time, Animal's vision was still blurry and doctors didn't know whether full vision could be restored.

"Those doctors can say what they want, but I'll be back and better than ever," said Animal. "Those wimps aren't gonna have the last say in this. Hawk and me have some butt kicking to do!"

—Ken Miranda

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From time to time, the editors of this magazine find it necessary to condemn those in wrestling who would subvert the basic principles of decency, integrity, and honesty. Without such truths, our sport will die

---

**B**ACK IN THE 1970s, Charley Finley, owner of the Oakland Athletics baseball team, tried to sell several key players to the New York Yankees for an outrageous sum of money. Finley hoped to unload these players in the final year of their contracts, but his intentions clearly threatened the competitive balance of professional baseball. Commissioner Bowie Kuhn stepped in and vetoed the sale, saying it wasn't in the best interests of baseball.

If only the World Wrestling Federation had such a powerful governing figure, strong enough to deal effectively with controversy and with enough intelligence to foresee future problems. If only WWF President Jack Tunney had the guts to step in and deal with Ted DiBiase before his expensive habit of buying and selling people broke out of control and threatened to destroy the WWF.

If only Jack Tunney was a real man.

The editors of *Sports Review Wrestling* accuse Jack Tunney of standing by idly while DiBiase made a sham of the WWF World title. Instead of acting quickly and forcefully, Tunney waited until it was too late. And now, although the WWF will try to get its shop back in order with a World title



WWF President Jack Tunney should have taken more forceful—and timely—action against Ted DiBiase's attempts to buy the WWF World title.

tournament on March 27 at WrestleMania IV, it's doubtful that the World championship will ever regain the respect it once commanded around the world.

And it's all because of Tunney. Lazy, incompetent Jack Tunney.

In early January, Tunney did nothing when DiBiase offered Hogan millions of dollars in exchange for the World title. Tunney breathed a sigh of relief when Hogan turned down the offer, probably thinking that he wouldn't have to deal directly with the issue. Then, DiBiase bought Andre the Giant's contract from Bobby Heenan and planned to have Andre win the belt for him. Again, Tunney did nothing.

We all know what happened on February 5 in Indianapolis. A nationwide television audience viewed the entire disgraceful scene. After winning the belt from Hogan, Andre handed the belt over to DiBiase. Minutes later, it became apparent that DiBiase had paid off NWA referee Earl Hebner to come to the WWF and officiate the match, while his twin brother, WWF referee Dave Hebner, was detained elsewhere. Television replays show that Hogan lifted his shoulder off the mat prior to the referee's two-count—and now we know why the pin was allowed.

Not until a few days later did Tunney decide the obvious: It is illegal and

(Continued on page 58)

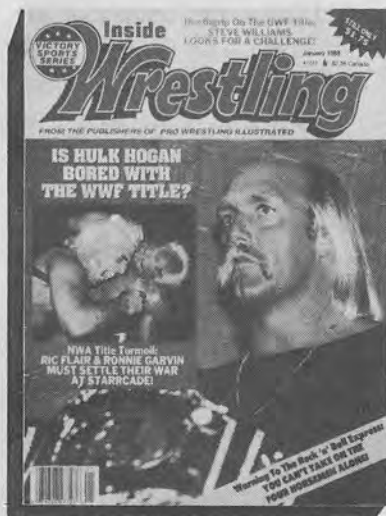


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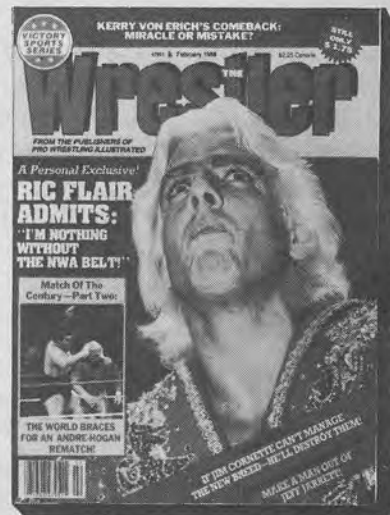
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# The Inquiring Reporter

No one knows wrestling better than the fans.

Because of this, we're now giving these experts a forum for their views and opinions. Each month, we'll ask a controversial question and have the fans answer—no matter what those answers might be!

## THE QUESTION:

*"In the wake of the controversial February 5 WWF title match between Hulk Hogan and Andre the Giant, Andre's selling of the title to Ted DiBiase, and then the declaration of the title as vacant, who is the real WWF World champion?"*

## THE ANSWERS:

*Tony Cappelletti, Freeport, NY: "As far as I'm concerned, Hulk Hogan is still the champion. Everybody knows*

*that referee had to be paid off to give Andre the Giant and Ted DiBiase the belt. Unless he loses it cleanly, Hogan is the true champ. That ref should be thrown in jail for what he did. If he's ever allowed to officiate in the WWF again, I'll stop going to the matches."*

*Diego Santiago, Los Angeles: "No question, Hogan is still number one. I used to like Andre a lot, but now he is a disgrace to the sport. I will never call him champion, and I will certainly*

*never call DiBiase the champion. He should just take all his money and go climb under a rock and stay there. And he should take Virgil with him. There is no place in wrestling for these kinds of people."*

*Tina Robertson, Omaha, NE: "A lot of people won't agree with me, but Andre got the three-count, so he's the WWF World champion. Our country was founded on the principle that you're innocent until proven guilty, so until that referee is found guilty, his decision has to stand. Look, I don't like Andre and I hate DiBiase, but the rules are the rules. You can't just throw them away when things don't go in your favor."*

*Sue Montross, Edina, MN: "Hogan is definitely still the champ. Andre didn't even get a two-count on him. I couldn't believe that the referee's hand went down three times. How could anybody doubt that he's corrupt? There should be an immediate investigation so Hogan can get the belt back as soon as possible. Hopefully, Andre, DiBiase, and that Hebner character will be kicked out of wrestling for good. They should be ashamed of themselves."*

*(Continued on page 60)*



Virgil holds the ropes for Ted DiBiase, who leaves the ring with the WWF World title belt as Andre the Giant glares at Hulk Hogan across the ring. Who deserves to be champion?



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# TOP WRESTLE

## YOUR QUESTION

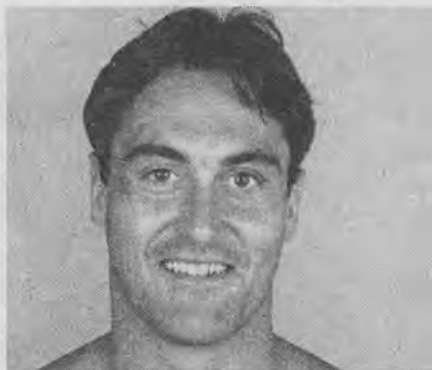
Do you have a question you want answered by 10 of wrestling's top stars? Each month, *Sports Review Wrestling* will publish a fan's "Question of the Month," which will be answered by the sport's top superstars. If you have a question you would like to see answered, send it to:

**ASK THE STARS**  
Sports Review Wrestling  
Box 48  
Rockville Centre, NY 11571

### THE "QUESTION OF THE MONTH" IS:

**"What is your  
favorite finishing  
maneuver?"**

**Submitted by:**  
**Eric Thomas, Jack-**  
**sonville Beach, FL**



**MIKE ROTUNDO**

"I've found that the airplane spin will lead to a pin almost every time. When used properly, it can even be dangerous. I first learned it when I was at Syracuse, but I couldn't use it in competition because it was against college rules. But now there's no such regulation holding me back. Every man who's gone for a ride in my airplane will tell you that it's a frightening experience."



**LEX LUGER**

"My backbreaker is simply one of the most devastating holds in all wrestling. True, I didn't invent it, but in my hands it's punishing. When I get a man up in that position, he's vulnerable to anything. If it's a tag team match and his partner tries to interfere, he's in even more trouble, because I'll drop him on his head. That's the price of dealing with 'The Total Package.'"



**STAN HANSEN**

"I won a world title with my Brazos Valley backbreaker, which is a Boston crab to you ignorant people. I don't care how strong a man's back is, once he's caught, he won't escape. I just love to hear that crunching sound when I squeeze down real tight and break some bones. The trouble is, I'm having trouble finding opponents because they're so afraid of the move."



**RONNIE GARVIN**

"The best way to finish somebody off is with a good, old-fashioned punch. It may not be the fanciest thing in the world, but it gets the job done. To those people who say a closed fist is illegal, I say I'm not gonna use the punch until the other guy does first. If he breaks the rules and the referee doesn't stop him, then why shouldn't I use my best weapon?"



# RS ANSWER OF THE MONTH



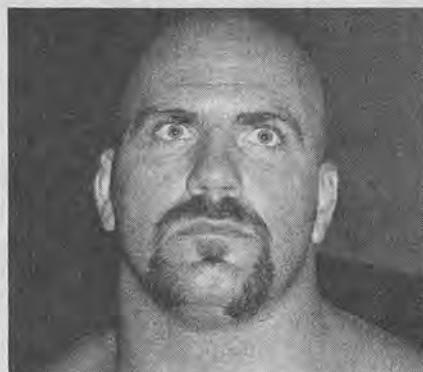
**KEVIN VON ERICH**

"Whether applied on my opponent's head or stomach, the clawhold is my favorite. I'm able to put on a tremendous amount of pressure without overexerting myself. That's the key, because if my opponent *does* manage to break the hold, I'll have plenty of energy left to continue the match. Knowledge of the claw has given me the edge in hundreds of matches."



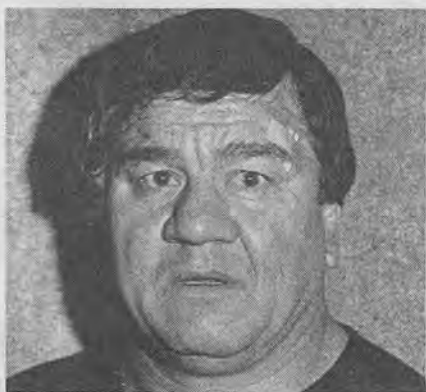
**BOB ORTON JR.**

"You know, daddy, being the technical master that I am, I know so many finishing maneuvers, it's hard to pick a favorite. But if you insist, I'd choose the superplex. It's been the finish for so many chumps that I lost count at 126. It combines the precision of a suplex with the crunch of a powerslam. I haven't seen anybody get up from it yet."



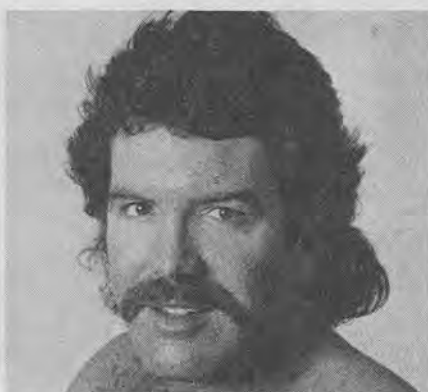
**NIKITA KOLOFF**

"Russian sickle is very, very effective. It can knock a man out fast and make him wish he never became wrestler. Many men have used a clothesline, but none have made it the weapon that I have. There is much power packed into this arm. I can defeat anyone with my Russian sickle. I have been a champion many times because of this move. No one can figure out way to stop it."



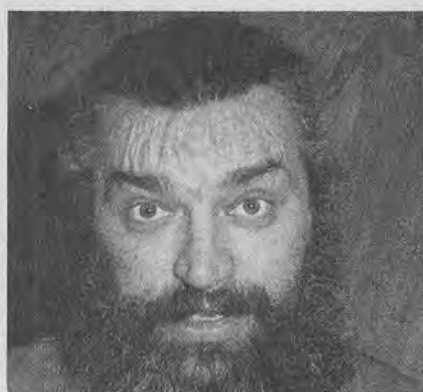
**WAHOO McDANIEL**

"My tomahawk chop is like an old friend; it's always there when I need it. I could be dead tired after a really tough 30-minute match, but I always have the strength for a good, hard chop. I'd say I've won countless times with it. In fact, I'm surprised that more guys haven't tried to learn it; there are a lot of burns out there who could use a decent finishing move."



**SCOTT HALL**

"After I've beaten a guy up good, I just love to wrap my arm around his head and give him the bulldog. Since I'm so tall, his head has a long way to drop before it hits the mat, and when it hits, it hurts. Not only do I get a three-count, some guys have to be taken out of the ring on a stretcher. If that's not a true finishing maneuver, show me a better one and I'll use it."



**BRUISER BRODY**

"Favorite? I don't particularly have a favorite. I use everything and anything to win my matches. Suplexes, brainbusters, backslides; I don't care, as long as they work, and I know how to make them work good. The important thing isn't what you use, but how you use it and when. It would be stupid to use a submission hold at the beginning of a match, like I've seen some idiots do."

# Inside Wrestling

Be sure to fill in the gaps in your collection of **INSIDE WRESTLING**, "The magazine that rips the lid off pro wrestling." Get all the information you need to keep up on the pro wrestling scene. Don't be left out. Avoid sellouts—order today!

**July 1974**/Stories include: Garea, Zbyszko, Heenan, Strongbow.

**September 1974**/Stories include: Sammartino, Graham, Brooks, Bruiser.

**November 1974**/Stories include: Garvin, Mascaras, Sammartino, Graham.

**August 1975**/Stories include: Valentine, Garea, Rhodes, Sammartino.

**September 1975**/Stories include: Mascaras, Funk, Valiants, Gagne.

**February 1976**/Stories include: Andre, Strongbow, Lewin, Brazil.

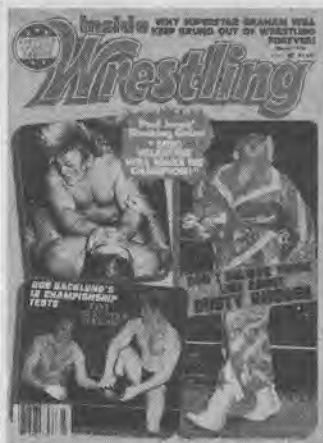
**March 1976**/Stories include: Ladd, Funk, Sheik, Robinson.

**April 1976**/Stories include: Mascaras, Albano, Flair, Brisco.

**August 1976**/Stories include: Funks, Mascaras, Sammartino, Putski.

**September 1976**/Stories include: Andre, Funk, Hansen, Mascaras.

**October 1976**/Stories include: Sammartino, Race, Johnson, Jones.



## MARCH 1978

**March 1978**/Stories include: Rhodes, Valentine, Backlund, Bockwinkel.

**April 1978**/Stories include: Backlund, Graham, Steamboat, Bruiser.

**August 1978**/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Andre, Hansen.

**October 1978**/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Rhodes, McDaniel.

**November 1978**/Stories include: Rhodes, Backlund, Flair, Steamboat.

**December 1978**/Stories include: Sammartino, Rhodes, Wrestling II, Bravo.

**January 1979**/Stories include: Sammartino, Mulligan, Rhodes, Backlund.



## JANUARY 1979

**February 1979**/Stories include: Race, Sammartino, Steamboat, Ladd.

**April 1979**/Stories include: Andre, Flair, Backlund, Jones.

**May 1979**/Stories include: Steamboat, Rhodes, Backlund, Heenan.

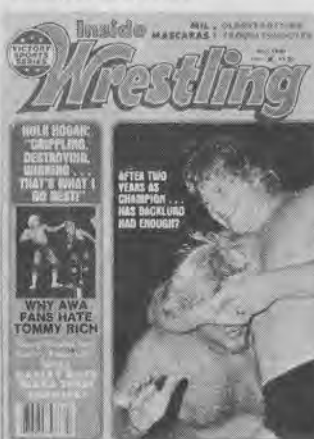
**June 1979**/Stories include: Rhodes, Superstar, Bockwinkel, Backlund.

**July 1979**/Stories include: Rhodes, Ladd, Valiant, Brower.

**August 1979**/Stories include: Flair, Garvin, Race, Sammartino.

**September 1979**/Stories include: Steamboat, Mascaras, Strongbow, Garvin.

**February 1980**/Stories include: Patera, Snuka, Santana, Albano.



## APRIL 1980

**April 1980**/Stories include: Hogan, Rich, Backlund, Mascaras.

**May 1980**/Stories include: Sammartino, Murdoch, Mulligan, Bockwinkel.

**June 1980**/Stories include: Putski, Andre, Hernandez, Keirn.

**August 1980**/Stories include: Sammartino, Wrestling II, Baker, Koloff.

**September 1980**/Stories include: Mascaras, Rhodes, Ladd, Iron Sheik.

**November 1980**/Stories include: Rhodes, Putski, Bockwinkel, Koloff.

**January 1981**/Stories include: Race, Snuka, Morales, Slater.

**April 1981**/Stories include: Albano, Sammartino Jr., Race, McGraw.

**May 1981**/Stories include: Iron Sheik, Von Erich, Backlund, Santana.

**June 1981**/Stories include: Rhodes, Hansen, Piper, Gagne.

**September 1981**/Stories include: Patera, Koloff, Khan, Junkyard Dog.

**January 1982**/Stories include: Flair, Hogan, Race, Humberdink.

**February 1982**/Stories include: Valentine, Flair, Steamboat, Rhodes.

**March 1982**/Stories include: Rich, Backlund, Idol, Spoiler.

**April 1982**/Stories include: Rhodes, Andre, Von Erich, Piper.

**May 1982**/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Hogan, Von Erich.

**June 1982**/Stories include: Valentine, Von Erich, Slaughter, Morales.

**July 1982**/Stories include: Hogan, Rhodes, Steamboat, Adonis.

**August 1982**/Stories include: Andre, Bockwinkel, Steamboat, Backlund.

**September 1982**/Stories include: Atlas, Piper, Lawler, Brody.

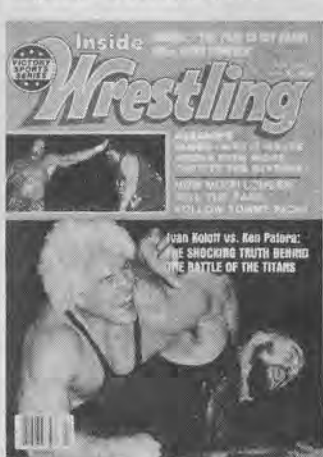
**October 1982**/Stories include: Rich, Andre, Piper, Dillon.

**November 1982**/Stories include: Flair, Snuka, Von Erich, Slaughter.

**December 1982**/Stories include: Mulligan, Rich, Lawler, Grand Wizard.

**February 1983**/Stories include: Rhodes, Hogan, DiBiase, Race.

**March 1983**/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Graham, Johnson, Funk.



## APRIL 1983

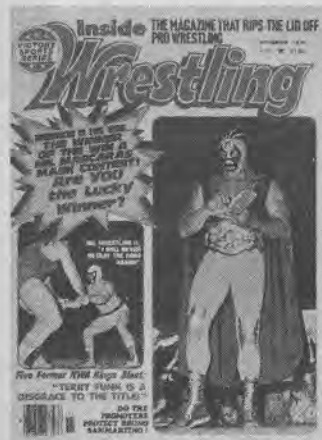
**April 1983**/Stories include: Snuka, Patera, Kabuki, Rich.

**May 1983**/Stories include: Rich, Snuka, Sullivan, Steamboat.

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**July 1983**/Stories include: Hogan, Freebirds, Rhodes, Youngblood.

**August 1983**/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Garvin, Sullivan, Lawler.



## NOVEMBER 1976

**November 1976**/Stories include: Mascaras, Wrestling II, Funk, Sammartino.

**December 1976**/Stories include: Stasiak, Rhodes, Bockwinkel, Orton.

**January 1977**/Stories include: Sammartino, Brisco, Funk, Gagne.

**August 1977**/Stories include: Backlund, Graham, Mascaras, Lawler.

**September 1977**/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Mascaras, Brisco.

**October 1977**/Stories include: Andre, Rhodes, Backlund, Mulligan.

**November 1977**/Stories include: Graham, Rhodes, Mascaras, Gagne.

**December 1977**/Stories include: Andre, Mascaras, Johnson, Maivia.



**September 1983/Stories include:** Zbyszko, Piper, Andre, Hayes.

**October 1983/Stories include:** Wrestling II, Backlund, Junkyard Dog, Rhodes.

**November 1983/Stories include:** Hogan, Reed, Von Erich, Dillon.

**December 1983/Stories include:** Von Erich, Samoans, Valiant, Road Warriors.

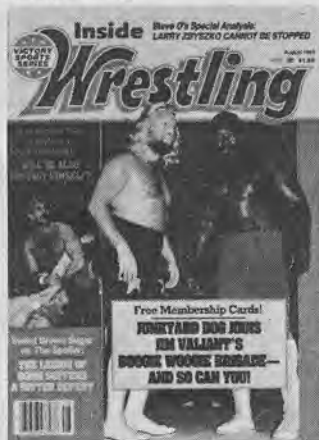
**March 1984/Stories include:** Junkyard Dog, Rich, Rhodes, Garvin.

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**May 1984/Stories include:** Iron Sheik, Steamboat, Rotundo, Von Erich.

**June 1984/Stories include:** Flair, Slaughter, Cornette, DiBiase.

**July 1984/Stories include:** Valiant, Flair, Martel, Wrestling II.



#### AUGUST 1984

**August 1984/Stories include:** Junkyard Dog, Magnum T.A., Idol, Spoiler.

**September 1984/Stories include:** Martel, Brody, Von Erich, Iron Sheik.

**October 1984/Stories include:** Billy Jack, Road Warriors, Steamboat, Piper.

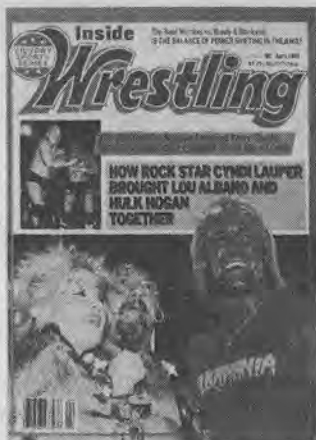
**November 1984/Stories include:** Rhodes, Rich, Hernandez, Warriors.

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**January 1985/Stories include:** Magnum T.A., Rhodes, Atlas, Von Erich.

**February 1985/Stories include:** Rich, Adams, Valiant, Flair.

**March 1985/Stories include:** Backlund, Billy Jack, Koloffs, Von Erichs.



#### APRIL 1985

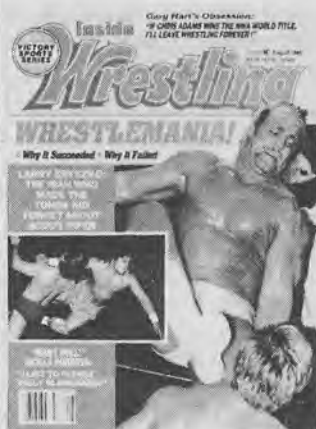
**April 1985/Stories include:** Warriors, Albano & Hogan, Steamboat, Gordy.

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**July 1985/Stories include:** Hogan, Von Erich, Nikita, Warriors.

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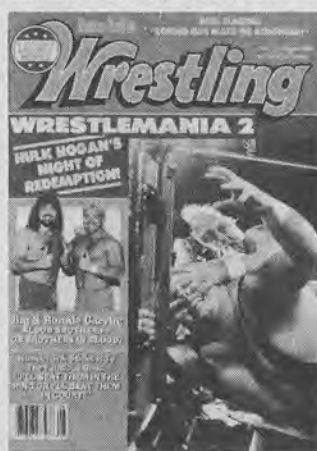
**March 1986/Stories include:** Windham & Rotundo, Warriors-Russians, Rude.

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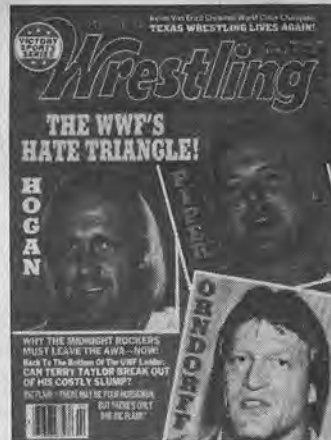
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**January 1988/Stories include:** R&R-Horsemen, Hogan, Flair-Garvin.

**February 1988/Stories include:** Savage, Kevin Von, Sting, Tully & Arn.

**March 1988/Stories include:** Bigelow, Adams, Koloff, Honky Tonk, Freebirds.

**April 1988/Stories include:** Luger-Flair, Ultimate Warrior, Andre-Hogan-DiBiase.

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## DUSTY RHODES

**T**HIS ISSUE'S "WRESTLER of the Month" balloting caused a unique, but friendly, debate among the editors of *Sports Review Wrestling*.

For the first time in months, there wasn't a major title victory from mid-January to mid-February. No titles changed hands at the WWF's nationally televised *Main Event* program (not counting, of course, the World title debacle; see "We Accuse" for more on that situation). There was actually only one major victory of significance: Dusty Rhodes' third straight Bunkhouse Stampede championship on January 24 at Nassau Coliseum.

Rhodes was a lock for "Wrestler of the Month," right? Think again.

Craig Peters, the managing editor of this publication, astutely pointed out that *Time* magazine doesn't always make its "Man of the Year" an individual who did the *best* things over the past 12 months. *Time* selects a man or woman who had the *most influence* on world events in the past year; the Ayatollah Khomeini was once named "Man of the Year."

So, argued Peters, following the criteria set by *Time*, why couldn't *Sports Review Wrestling* select a "Wrestler of the Month" that had the most influence on the sport over the past month? Why did the "Wrestler of the Month" have to be the *best* wrestler or even the most *successful* wrestler? Why couldn't it be a man such as Ted DiBiase, who turned the wrestling world upside down for 30 days and threatens to do so again for many months to come?

"Ted DiBiase changed the course of WWF championship history," said Peters. "He had more influence on the Andre-Hogan match than any other man, more than Andre, more than Hogan, more than either of the referees, and certainly more than [WWF President] Jack Tunney. DiBiase bought Andre, he bought Earl Hebner (the imposter ref), and he was responsible for getting rid of the real referee, Dave Hebner. Who was more influential to the sport than Ted DiBiase? Nobody. He is the one individual who stands out in my mind over the past month."

Peters was undoubtedly right. DiBiase has influenced wrestling more than any man before him. When Andre the Giant handed DiBiase the WWF World title, history was made. When it was discovered that there was an imposter referee in the ring, it was obvious that DiBiase had paid him off. And when Hogan entered the ring before the start of the match, DiBiase was the first person he went after.

But, retorted Senior Editor Bill Apter, the "Wrestler of the Month" award cannot be compared to *Time's* "Man of the Year." *Sports Review Wrestling* has already set a precedent for awarding "Wrestler of the Month" honors to the best or most accomplished wrestler of the past

month. It had never been awarded to the most influential, so why start now?

It was an interesting argument (one which we'd love to hear your opinion on—should we change the criteria in the future?). In the end, the majority of the editorial board agreed that the "Wrestler of the Month" award should go to the wrestler who accomplished the most. Once that criteria was established, Dusty Rhodes was voted the winner by a sizeable margin (Peters and Assistant Editor Eddie Ellner, an avowed Dusty hater, filed the only dissenting votes).

By any criteria, Rhodes' victory in the Bunkhouse Stampede was a remarkable achievement. Before 7,000 fans at Long Island's Nassau Coliseum and a nationwide pay-per-view TV audience, Rhodes eliminated the younger and stronger Konga the Barbarian to remain the only man ever to have won a Stampede in the event's three-year history. Rhodes, who proudly calls himself "The King of the Bunkhouse Stampede," proved that the title is well-deserved.

Incredibly, Dusty didn't even qualify for the Bunkhouse Stampede finals until he won a wild-card battle royal cage match on January 1 at The Omni in Atlanta. To qualify for the final, a wrestler had to win one of the preliminary Stampedes. Dusty was shut out in the early rounds, but got a second chance in Atlanta, along with Nikita Koloff, Dick Murdoch, Black Bart, and Bobby Eaton.

Rhodes and Eaton were the only wrestlers remaining when Dusty grabbed Jim Cornette's tennis racket. As both men straddled the top of the cage, Rhodes beat Eaton with the racket and finally sent him falling to the arena floor. "The Dream' gained the momentum right there, daddy," said Rhodes. "Once I got into the championship, I wasn't gonna be denied."

The final featured The Warlord, Konga the Barbarian, Road Warrior Animal, and Lex Luger (four of the strongest men in wrestling), plus Tully Blanchard and Arn Anderson (two of the smartest), Ivan Koloff (one of the most experienced), and Rhodes (the Bunkhouse master).

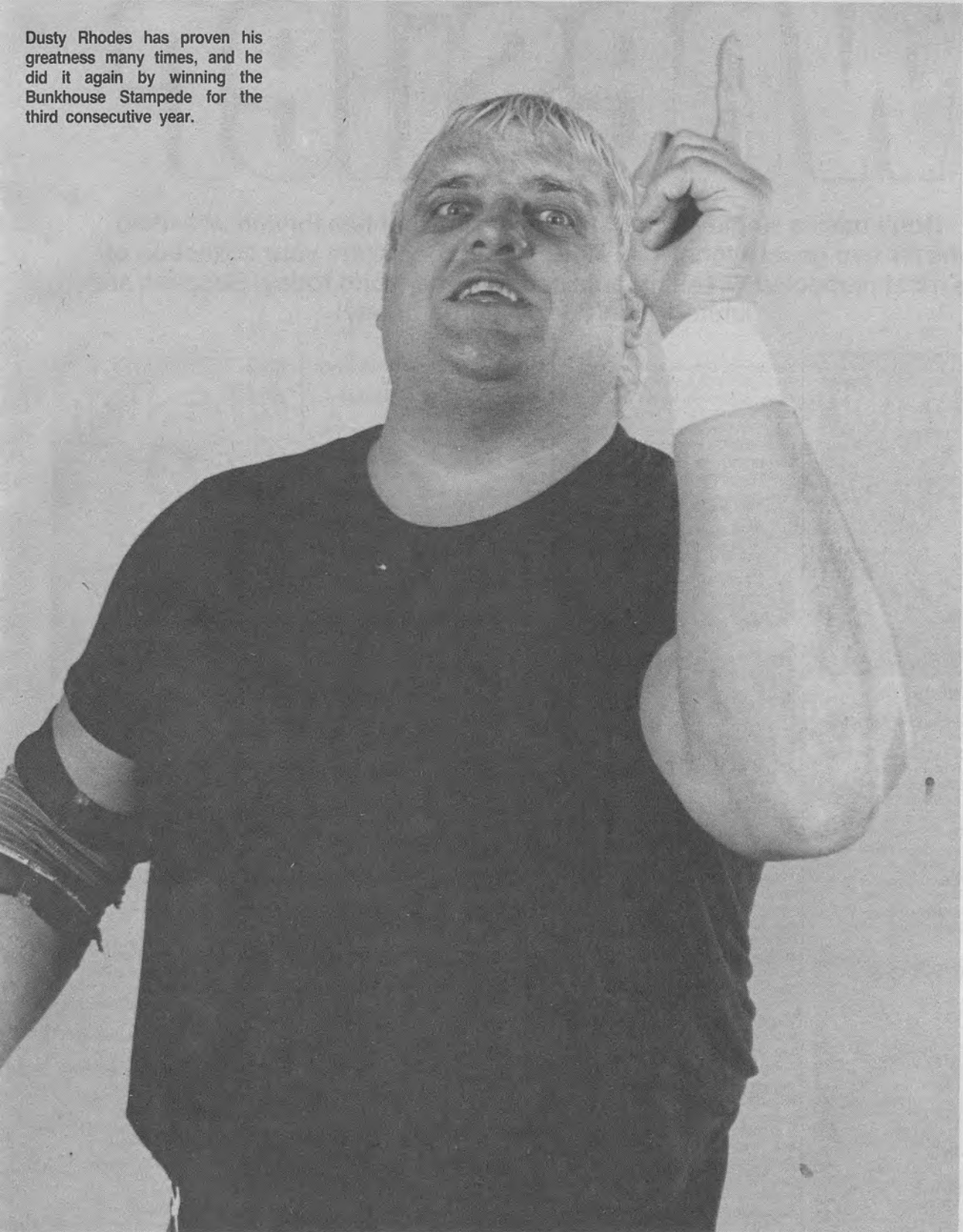
After more than 20 minutes, Koloff was eliminated by Animal. Then, Warlord and Animal fell out the cage door together when Konga charged them both. But the most important moment of the match came when Tully, Arn, and Luger fell out of the cage together in the midst of an all-out brawl. This left Rhodes and Barbarian for a classic battle of experience and desire vs. pure strength.

Barbarian tried to push Rhodes out the cage door, but Dusty resisted. The two men then climbed to the top of the cage and battled it out. Finally, Rhodes used his final burst of energy to send Konga to the floor.

It was a stunning victory. An incredible upset. An achievement worthy of honor under any criteria. □



Dusty Rhodes has proven his greatness many times, and he did it again by winning the Bunkhouse Stampede for the third consecutive year.





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**June 1975/Stories include:** Andre, Muraco, Funk, Lawler.

**August 1975/Stories include:** Sammartino, Patterson, Stasiak, Rivera.

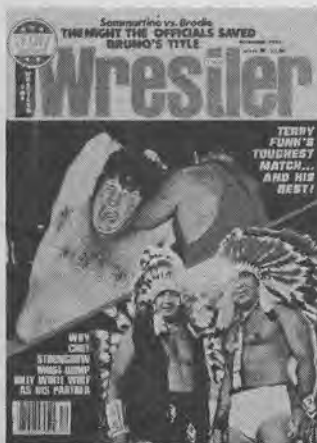
**December 1975/Stories include:** Mascaras, Rhodes, McDaniel, Blackjacks.

**February 1976/Stories include:** Andre, Sammartino, Rhodes, Valentine.

**July 1976/Stories include:** Andre, Wrestling II, Inoki, Von Erich.

**November 1976/Stories include:** Sammartino, Andre, Valentine, Mosca.

**December 1976/Stories include:** Von Erich, Mulligan, Brody, Funk.



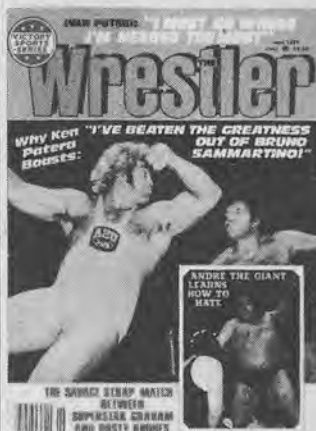
## DECEMBER 1976

**January 1977/Stories include:** Brody, Andre, Wrestling II, Mascaras.

**February 1977/Stories include:** Sammartino, Jones, Funk, Von Raschke.

**April 1977/Stories include:** Sammartino, Funk, Flair, Bockwinkel.

**May 1977/Stories include:** Mascaras, Valiants, Andersons, Sammartino.



## JUNE 1977

**June 1977/Stories include:** Patera, Putski, Hernandez, McDaniel.

**July 1977/Stories include:** Backlund, Rhodes, Rocca, Mascaras.

**October 1977/Stories include:** Rhodes, Sammartino, Flair, Snuka.

**November 1977/Stories include:** Sammartino, Slater, Mascaras, Snuka.

**September 1978/Stories include:** Rhodes, Grahams, Andre, Mascaras.

**October 1978/Stories include:** Sammartino, Backlund, McDaniel, Race.

**November 1978/Stories include:** Flair, Andre, Ladd, Graham.

**December 1978/Stories include:** Brisco, Mulligan, Andre, Blanchard.

**February 1979/Stories include:** Ladd, Flair, Idol, Heenan.

**May 1979/Stories include:** Steamboat, Brody, Valiants, Race.

**July 1979/Stories include:** Wrestling II, Backlund, Sammartino, Andre.

**August 1979/Stories include:** Bockwinkel, Patera, Stevens, Superstar.

**September 1979/Stories include:** Superstar Graham, Cyclone Negro, Greg Gagne, Mil Mascaras.

**October 1979/Stories include:** Flair, Valentine, Santana, Muraco.

**December 1979/Stories include:** Andre, Graham, Rhodes, Mascaras.

**January 1980/Stories include:** Race, Backlund, Snuka, Brisco.

**February 1980/Stories include:** Andre, Flair, DiBiase, Superstar.

**March 1980/Stories include:** Sammartino, Murdoch, Mulligan, Andre.

**April 1980/Stories include:** Rhodes, DiBiase, Youngblood, Wrestling II.

**May 1980/Stories include:** Andre, Mascaras, Bockwinkel, Patera.

**June 1980/Stories include:** Backlund, Abdullah, Brisco, Flair.

**August 1980/Stories include:** Valentine, Zbyszko, Von Erich, Albano.

**September 1980/Stories include:** Ladd, Patera, Steamboat, Gagne.

**October 1980/Stories include:** Patera, Rhodes, Wrestling II, Morales.

**January 1981/Stories include:** Valentine, Rhodes, Patera, Von Erich.

**February 1981/Stories include:** Zbyszko, Patera, Iron Sheik, Wrestling II.

**March 1981/Stories include:** Rich, Samoans, Blassie, Wrestling II.

**May 1981/Stories include:** Backlund, Rhodes, DiBiase, Moondogs.

**June 1981/Stories include:** Sammartino, Piper, Rich, Martel.

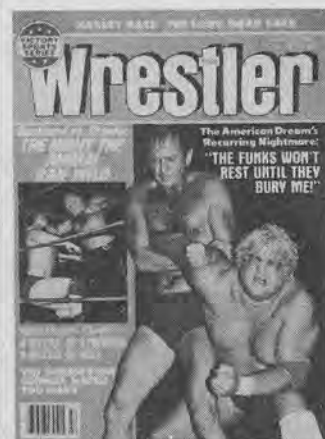
**July 1981/Stories include:** Backlund, Rhodes, Flair, Atlas.

**August 1981/Stories include:** DiBiase, Slaughter, Martel, Idol.

**October 1981/Stories include:** Funks, Rhodes, Race, Sullivan.



## OCTOBER 1981



## DECEMBER 1981

**December 1981/Stories include:** Rhodes, Steele, Race, Hogan.

**January 1982/Stories include:** Rich, Steamboat, Sullivan, Sammartino.

**March 1982/Stories include:** Slaughter, Albano, Flair, Race.

**April 1982/Stories include:** Brisco, Armstrongs, Valentine, Santana.

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**September 1982/Stories include:** Rhodes, Hogan, Armstrong, Blair.

**October 1982/Stories include:** Snuka, Rhodes, Santana, Piper.

**November 1982/Stories include:** Flair, Snuka, Piper, Blair.

**December 1982/Stories include:** Snuka, Rich, Kamala, Junkyard Dog.

**January 1983/Stories include:** Putski, Muraco, Windham, Bockwinkel.

**February 1983/Stories include:** Bockwinkel, Backlund, Rich, Kamala.

**April 1983/Stories include:** Rhodes, Tiger Mask, Sammartino, Bundy.

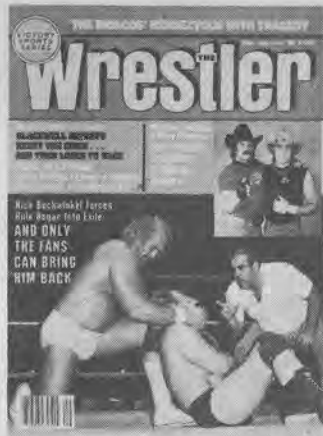
**May 1983/Stories include:** Samoans, Von Erich, Rhodes, Orndorff.

**June 1983/Stories include:** Windham, Martel, Brody, Andre.

**July 1983/Stories include:** Flair, Adonis, Sullivan, Zbyszko.

**August 1983/Stories include:** Valentine, Blanchard, Windham, Street.

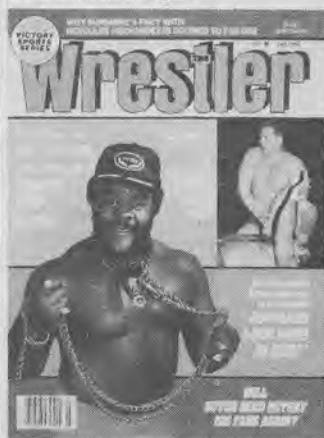




## SEPTEMBER 1983

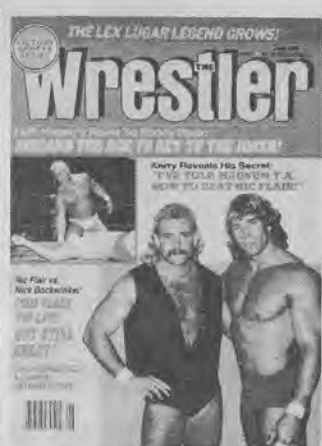
**September 1983**/Stories include: Hogan, Ellering, Von Erich, Briscoes.  
**October 1983**/Stories include: Race, Sawyer, Briscoes, Bass.  
**November 1983**/Stories include: Rhodes, Santana, Von Erichs, Kabuki.  
**December 1983**/Stories include: Mascaras, Superstar, Von Erich, Zbyszko.  
**January 1984**/Stories include: Valentine, Hogan, Von Erich, Road Warriors.  
**March 1984**/Stories include: Santana, Hogan, Von Erich, Sawyers.  
**April 1984**/Stories include: Hogan, Ellering, Von Erich, Rhodes.  
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**July 1984**/Stories include: Rich, Billy Jack, Valiant, Von Erich.  
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**October 1984**/Stories include: Flair, Rhodes, Magnum T.A., Bundy.  
**November 1984**/Stories include: Billy Jack, Von Erich, Piper, Brody.  
**December 1984**/Stories include: Martel, Santana, Von Erich, Steamboat.  
**January 1985**/Stories include: Von Erich, Warriors, Albano, Koloffs.

**February 1985**/Stories include: Warriors, Santana, Billy Jack, Nikita Koloff.  
**March 1985**/Stories include: Slaughter, Warriors, Martel, Rude.  
**April 1985**/Stories include: Warriors, Von Erich-Adams, Flair, Tonga & Snuka.  
**May 1985**/Stories include: Warriors, Backlund, Santana, Rich.  
**June 1985**/Stories include: Rhodes, Windham, Rich, Hogan.



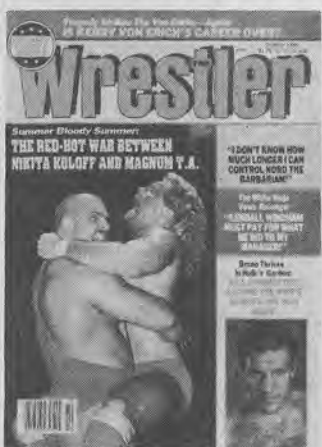
## JULY 1985

**July 1985**/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Reed, Martel, Sunshine.  
**August 1985**/BONUS 4-PG. COLOR SECTION! Plus: Warriors, Magnum T.A., Sheik & Volkoff, McGraw.  
**September 1985**/Stories include: Hogan, Von Erich, Savage, R&R Express.  
**October 1985**/Stories include: Flair, Windham, Shultz, Martel.  
**November 1985**/Stories include: Hogan, Zbyszko, R&R Express, Von Erichs.  
**December 1985**/Stories include: Rude, Fantastics, Muraco, Uncle Elmer.  
**January 1986**/20th Anniversary Issue! 10 Greatest Wrestlers, Rhodes, Hogan, Sammartino.  
**February 1986**/Stories include: Hogan, Omdorff, Flair, Hansen.  
**March 1986**/Stories include: Von Erich, Duggan, Hansen-Martel.  
**April 1986**/Stories include: Von Erich, Rude, Lugar, Hogan, Magnum T.A.  
**May 1986**/Stories include: Zbyszko, Von Erichs, Santana-Ventura, Hillbillies.



## JUNE 1986

**June 1986**/Stories include: Lugar, Hernandez, Flair-Bockwinkel, Hogan, T.A.  
**July 1986**/Stories include: King Kong Bundy, Koloff vs. Graham, Ric Flair.  
**August 1986**/Stories include: Snuka, Bulldogs, Freebirds, Warriors, Duggan.  
**September 1986**/Stories include: Fantastics, Adonis, Morton-Flair, Brody.  
**October 1986**/Stories include: Nikita-Magnum, Nord, Bruno, Kerry, Windham.



## OCTOBER 1986

**November 1986**/Stories include: R&R Express, Hogan-Omdorff, Von Erich.  
**December 1986**/Stories include: Flair, Bockwinkel, Hogan, Gilbert, Nikita.  
**January 1987**/Stories include: Heenan, Garvins, DiBiase, Borne & Sawyer.  
**February 1987**/Stories include: Magnum T.A., Gordy, Steamboat-Roberts.  
**March 1987**/Stories include: Windham, Nikita, Adias, Savage-Steamboat.  
**May 1987**/Stories include: Flair-Nikita, Andre-Hogan, UWF, Windham, Hennig.  
**June 1987**/Stories include: Flair-Windham, Can-Ams, Rhodes-Murdoch.  
**July 1987**/Stories include: Cornette, Hyatt, Luger, Harts, Adams, Hansen.  
**August 1987**/Stories include: Can-Ams, Luger vs. Nikita, Fantastics, Koko, Nord.  
**September 1987**/Stories include: Koloffs, Harts, Duggan, Hennig, Hart.  
**October 1987**/Stories include: Savage-Honky Tonk, Horsemen, Patera, Kerry.  
**November 1987**/Stories include: Williams, Luger, Hogan-Khan, Rich.  
**December 1987**/Stories include: Hogan, Windham, Lawler, Flair, Beefcake.  
**January 1988**/Stories include: Nikita-Taylor, Warriors, DiBiase-Duggan.  
**February 1988**/Stories include: Flair, Andre-Hogan, New Breed, Kerry.  
**March 1988**/Stories include: Hogan, Luger-Sting, Calgary, Demolition.  
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# INTERVIEW

## PAUL E. DANGEROUSLY

**T**HOUGH A PRO manager for only about two years, Paul E. Dangerously has made a name for himself worthy of two decades in the sport. As the manager of Tommy Rich and Austin Idol in the CWA, Dangerously helped orchestrate one of the most shocking incidents in that region's history: the cutting of Jerry Lawler's hair. It was a shining moment of glory for the young rulebreaking manager.

But the glow of victory soon faded as Rich and Idol turned their back on Dangerously, driving him out of the area. His resourcefulness still intact, Dangerously persuaded Dennis Condrey (who had just been fired from Jim Cornette's Midnight Express) and Randy Rose to reunite their "Original" Midnight Express. They quickly began to dominate AWA tag team action, and in October they captured the AWA World tag team title from Lawler and Bill Dundee.

Rich, meanwhile, had followed Dangerously to the AWA. To combat his enraged foe, Paul hired Adrian Adonis. The subsequent Adonis-Rich feud gave Dangerously even more publicity, but events once more worked against him. A disputed result in a match between the Express and The Midnight Rockers led to the Rockers winning their second AWA World tag title. Convinced he'd gotten a raw deal, Dangerously left the area in a rage and dissolved the Express.

With Rose still under contract, Dangerously traveled to Georgia and the



Paul E. Dangerously has brought his special brand of troublemaking to Georgia, where he continues his feud with Tommy Rich, a man he once managed.

Southern Championship Wrestling promotion, where Rich was waiting to "greet" him. A Rose-Rich match soon followed. Seeing that his man was going to lose, Dangerously made a call on his ever-present cellular telephone and, lo and behold, Austin Idol ran out to ringside, grabbed the phone, and jumped into the fray. In minutes, Rich's face was a horribly bloody mess.

Bill Dromo, president of Southern Championship Wrestling, confiscated the phone, but Dangerously was able to get it back with the help of his attorneys. The flames of that incident still burning, Assistant Editor Andy Rodriguez flew to Marietta, Georgia, to get the full story. "Dangerously was anxious to give his side of things," Rodriguez said. "He didn't need much prodding to get the interview started."





Telephone in hand, Dangerously interferes with Rich (above). Idol uses the phone to pound Rich until he is bleeding profusely (below). Randy Rose was also in on the slaughter.

Tommy Rich is purely a fluke. He keeps bragging about how he was once NWA World champion. Do you know how long he held the title for? Four days. That's it, four measly days. Rich is not only a has-been, he's a never-was. He's a no-talent bum masquerading as a wrestler, and a bad one at that. *(Dangerously launches into an impression of Rich)* Somebody say we gonna go out an' kick some booty an' have a good time an' we gonna beat up Paul E. Danjusly? *(Dangerously returns to his own voice)* C'mon, the man is an idiot. I have nothing to worry about.

**Q:** I can't believe you're not taking Rich seriously.

**A:** I take my *profession* seriously. Rich is not a member of my profession. I have more important concerns, like preventing these stupid officials from denying me my livelihood.

**Q:** How are they doing that?

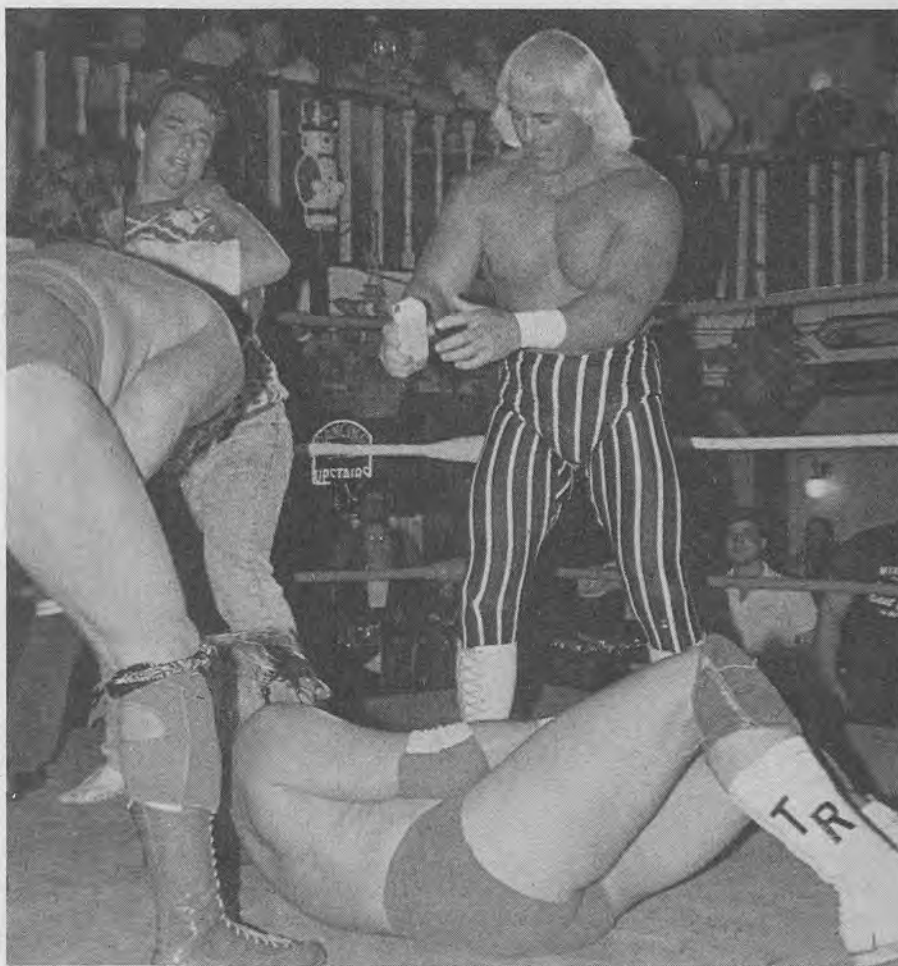
**A:** Haven't you been paying attention?

**Q:** Paul, let's start with this latest incident. I saw a tape of that Rose-Rich match, and I have to tell you, I've never seen a wrestler bleed so much. It looked as though Rich had been hit in the face by a truck. What happened to him goes far beyond wrestling; it's a criminal act.

**A:** So when do you want me to start crying, huh? The man bleeds like a pig because he *is* a pig! He's an annoyance to me, an embarrassment to his family, and a disgrace to wrestling. I'm only sorry that Austin and Randy didn't do a more complete job. Other than that, I took extreme pleasure in Rich's predicament. I enjoy watching that dirty redneck get hurt.

**Q:** Your sadistic tendencies aside, how are you going to deal with Rich if you couldn't finish him off this time? Clearly the man is after you. He followed you to the AWA and he was waiting for you here.

**A:** Following me is one thing, my friend, catching me is another.



They tried to take my phone away. Bill Dromo thinks he has the right to just step in and take anything that belongs to me. Somebody better teach that stuffed shirt how to use executive power wisely.

**Q:** He acted responsibly. Idol used that phone to beat Rich senseless. Anyway, you got the phone back. Besides, why didn't you just buy another one?

**A:** That's not the point, man. Dromo set a bad precedent. Like they say, it's not the money, but the principle. That happened to be my favorite phone, the finest technology has yet to offer. I had my lawyers working overtime to get the ruling suspended. A great injustice was almost done to me. I don't like these games he's playing. We're talking about my career, here. These federation presidents have far too much power. Look what happened to me in the AWA.

**Q:** I'll get to that in a moment, but I want to talk more about Idol. It turns out now that you've been

talking with him on the phone all these months, even when you were in the AWA. What was he telling you?

**A:** Don't get excited. I'm not disclosing any confidential information to you or your readers. Let's just say Austin and I discussed our mutual interests: wrestling and finance. Aside from being one hell of a wrestler/manager team, we've made some pretty wise joint investments. The stock market crash didn't affect us at all. We've sufficiently diversified our concerns. If we quit wrestling tomorrow, we'd be set for life.

**Q:** I'm glad to hear you're flying high financially, Paul, but let's get back to wrestling. You were doing very well in the AWA, until the situation with The Midnight Rockers occurred. Why didn't you stay and fight after your wrestlers lost the title? After all, you still had Adonis.

**A:** If [AWA President Stanley] Blackburn gives us a raw deal once,

what's gonna stop him from doing it again? He's made some strange decisions in the past, but this was easily his worst. Any fool who was there could tell you we beat The Midnight Rockers one-two-three in the middle of the ring. There was no controversy. I don't understand what the problem could have been.

**Q:** As I understand it, after all four men bumped into referee Marty Miller and knocked him out, Marty Jannetty covered Dennis Condrey for the pin while Randy Rose covered Shawn Michaels. A second ref ran in and, thinking Miller had been knocked out, made the count on Michaels . . .

**A:** Exactly, we won the match.

**Q:** Not exactly. Miller recovered and made the count on Condrey. Blackburn ruled that since Miller was the legal referee, his decision would stand, and so the belts changed hands. It was a logical decision.

**A:** Who are you, Mr. Spock? It was a lousy decision, Rodriguez. Miller had been knocked cold. He was in no condition to make the count. The man who replaced him was a licensed referee who acted properly. He's the only official in that corrupt league who could ever be accused of acting properly. I considered filing a suit against the Awful Wrestling Association, but I was advised not to waste my money. I'm better off just getting out of there.

**Q:** Do you have any plans to get Rose and Condrey back together again?

**A:** Of course I'd like to get the boys back together. We're still one of the best teams in the sport. I'd bet they could walk into any ring in the country tomorrow and win a title. But Dennis isn't too sure what he wants to do right now. When he's ready to return to action, Randy and I will be there. In the meantime, I have other plans.

**Q:** There have been rumors that, despite your anger, you may return to the AWA to manage AWA

(Continued on page 52)



Dangerously challenges Rich during a televised interview conducted by Joe Pedicino. Their feud began when Rich deserted his former manager in Memphis.



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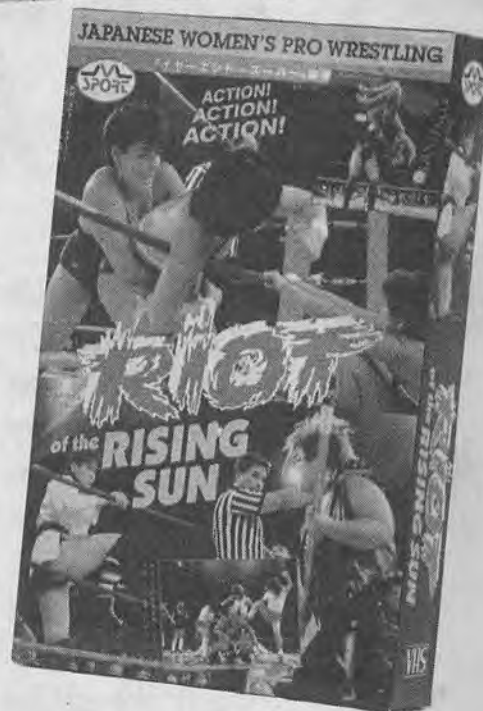
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- Nancy Kumi vs. Lucy Kayama
- Monster Ripper & "Devil" Masami vs. Ayumi "Jumbo" Hori & Mimi Hagiwara
- "Jaguar" Rimi Yokota vs. Tarantula
- "Crush Girl" Lioness Asuka vs. "Crush Girl" Chigusa Nagayo



## Riot Of The Rising Sun

(running time: approximately 70 minutes)

- Yukari Omori & Ayumi "Jumbo" Hori vs. Noriyo Tateno & Itysuki Yamasaki—"The Jumping Bomb Angels"
- Masked You & Kaoru "Dump" Matsumoto vs. Lioness Asuka & Chigusa Nagayo—"The Crush Girls"
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# THE ANDRE-HOGAN FEUD

## A PICTORIAL HISTORY

**The Andre the Giant vs. Hulk Hogan feud has been witnessed by more people than any other war in wrestling history.**

**In this special section *Sports Review Wrestling* presents a pictorial look at an incredible feud!**

**T**HERE'S NEVER BEEN anything like it. The Andre the Giant-Hulk Hogan feud has captured the imagination of wrestling fans—and those who have never before watched the sport—like no other battle in wrestling history. More than 93,000 fans and hundreds of thousands more on closed-circuit and pay-per-view TV watched Andre and Hogan battle at WrestleMania III. Millions more watched their controversial February 5 rematch on NBC.

The Andre-Hogan feud has set attendance records, brought wrestling back to prime-time network television for the first time in 33 years, and was responsible for introducing wrestling to pay-per-view TV. Like the Muhammad Ali-Joe Frazier trilogy of boxing matches in the early 1970s, Andre vs. Hogan has dominated the wrestling world for the past two years.

Many people, however, think the Andre-Hogan feud started on January 6, 1987, when Andre acted coldly toward his former friend after WWF President Jack Tunney awarded them trophies for their magnificent accomplishments.

In reality, Andre and Hogan first battled in 1980, when Hogan was a hated rulebreaker managed by the notorious Fred Blassie and Andre was still loved by his legions of fans in the WWF and around the world. They met on the undercard of the

famous Bruno Sammartino-Larry Zbyszko cage match at Shea Stadium in New York. The result might sound familiar:

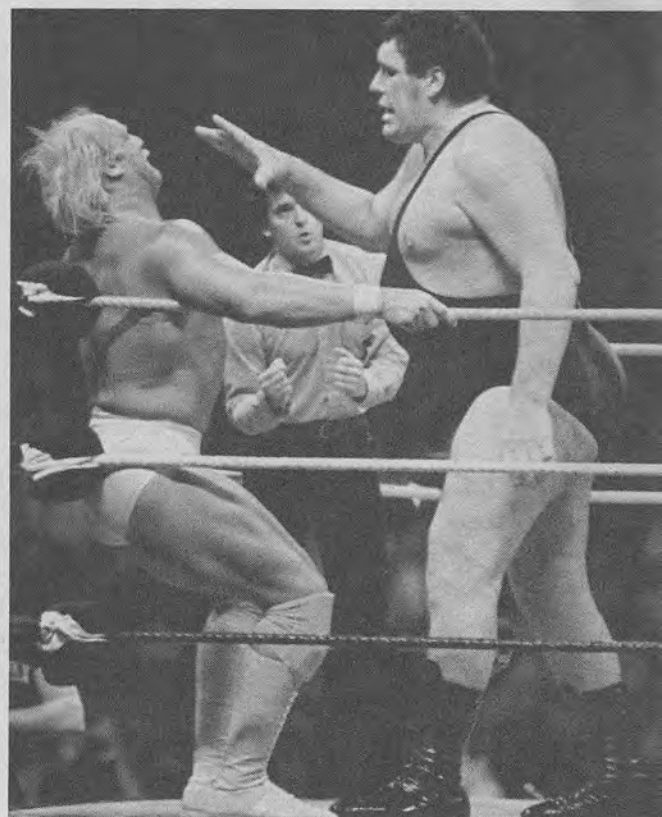
Andre pinned Hogan, but tapes of the match showed that Hogan managed to kick out just before the three-count. Eight years later, Andre would pin Hogan again, this time for the WWF World championship, and tapes clearly show that Hogan lifted his shoulder well before the three-count.

Andre and Hogan met once more in 1980 at Madison Square Garden, and didn't step into the ring together again until 1982. That time, however, Hogan and Andre were on the same side and defeated Bobby Heenan, Nick Bockwinkel, Ken Patera, and Bobby Duncum in a special two-on-four match that was arranged after Andre and Hogan decided they didn't want to wrestle each other.

They formed a strong friendship. Hogan learned from Andre and became the most popular man in wrestling history. Andre, the gentle giant, refused to tread on Hogan's territory when Hogan won the WWF World title and continued to build his legend around the world.

Finally, Andre got tired of waiting for a shot at Hogan's World championship. On the January 26, 1987, edition of "Piper's Pit," Hogan was shocked when Jesse Ventura appeared with Andre and



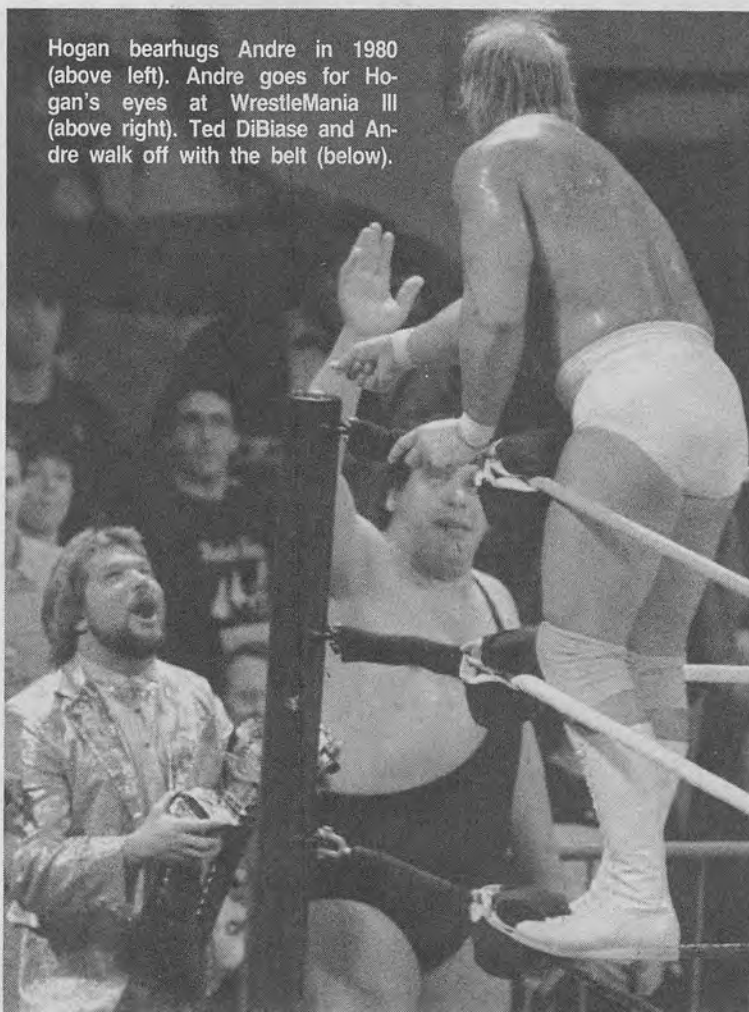


Heenan. Andre demanded a title shot, ripped off Hogan's shirt, and left him behind, blood tricking down his chest. Piper then asked Hogan if he would grant Andre a title shot; Hogan answered, "Yes!" The 1980 feud was renewed. They met at WrestleMania III, where Andre was pinned for the first time in his long career.

At press time, the WWF World title had been vacated after Andre won the belt from Hogan at the February 5 rematch and gave it to Ted DiBiase. A title tournament at WrestleMania IV was ordered, and Hogan and Andre will face off in a second round match.

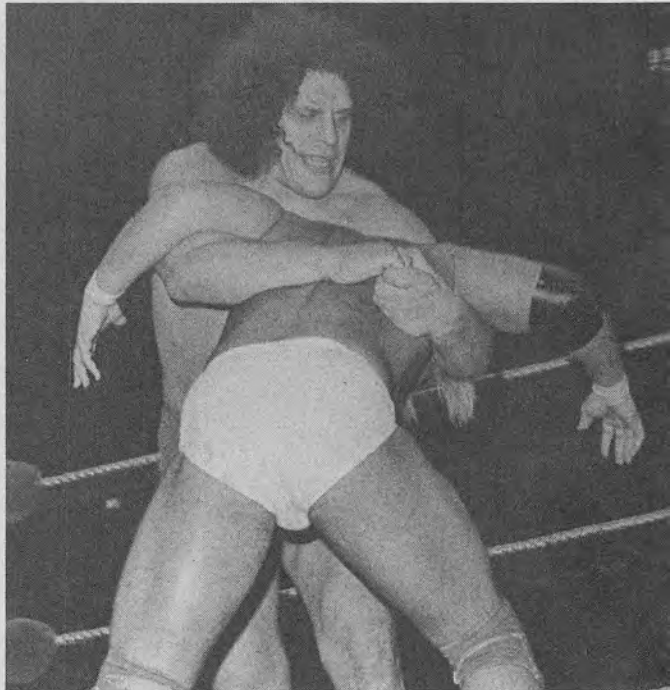
The editors of *Sports Review Wrestling* are proud to present this pictorial history of an incredible feud. On the following pages, you'll relive many of the forgotten moments of the Andre-Hogan feud—events that must *always* be remembered by true wrestling fans.

Hogan bearhugs Andre in 1980 (above left). Andre goes for Hogan's eyes at WrestleMania III (above right). Ted DiBiase and Andre walk off with the belt (below).

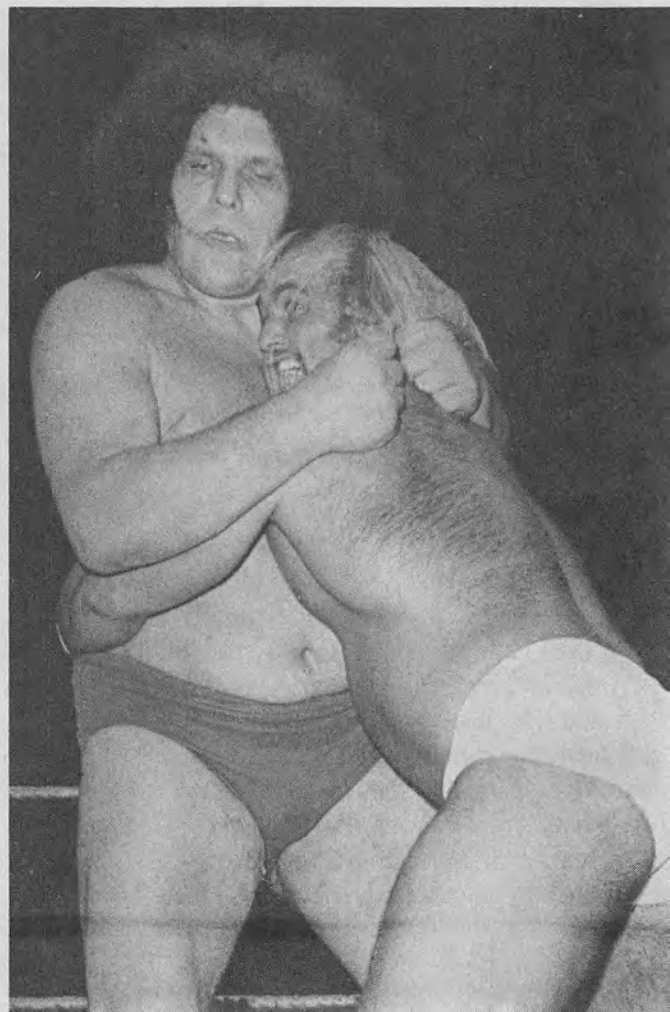
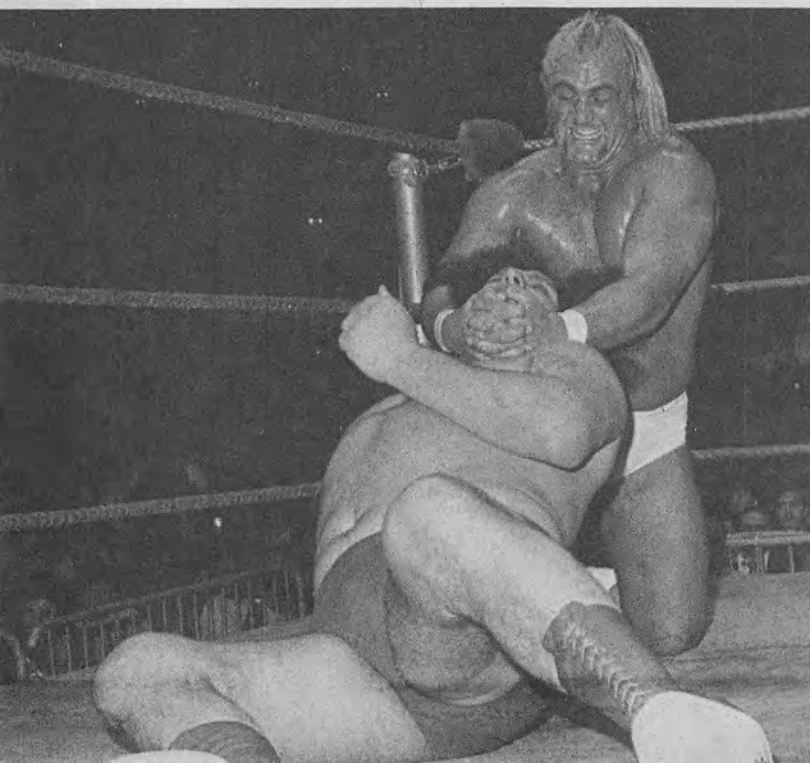


## THE ANDRE- HOGAN FEUD

# THE EARLY YEARS



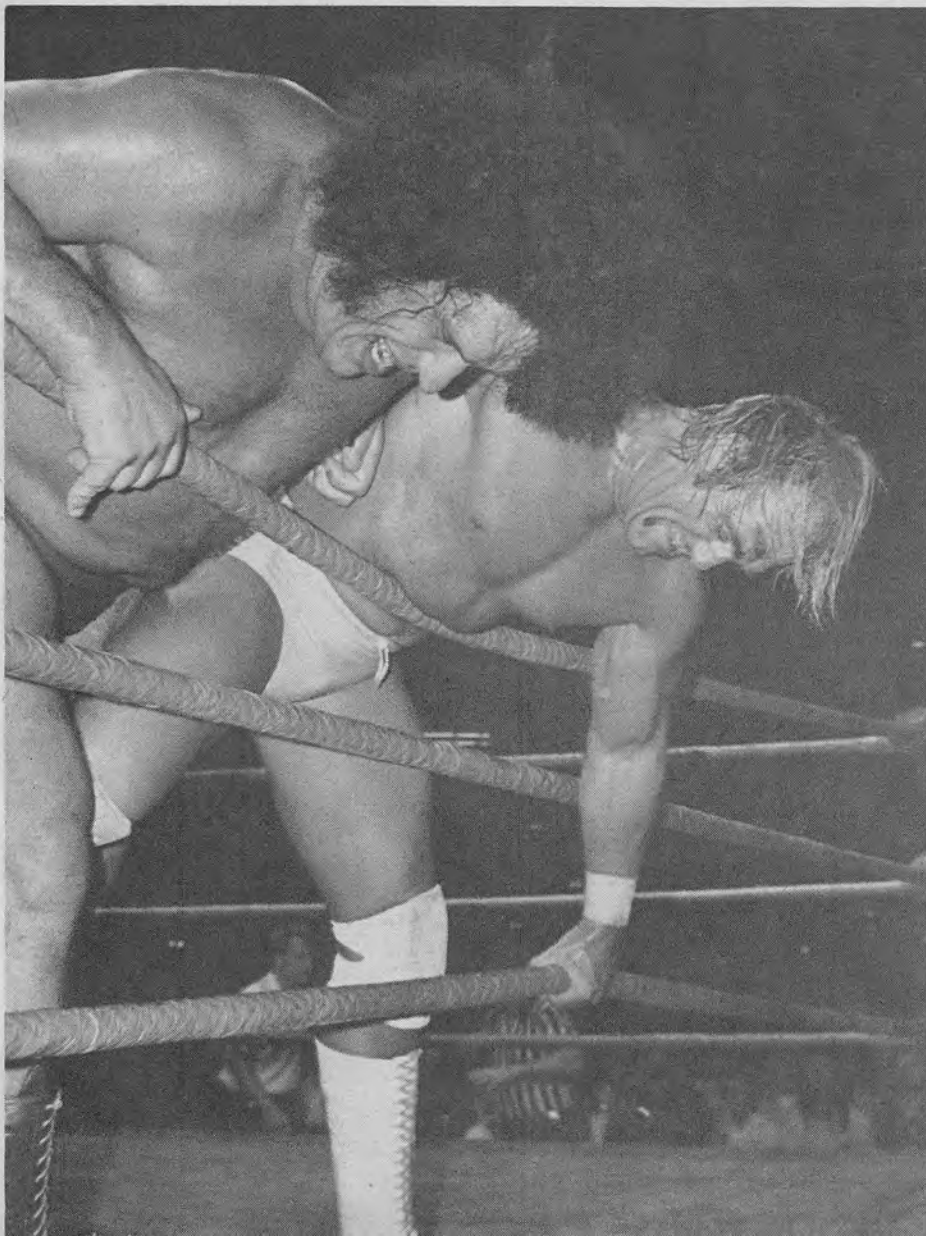
The rulebreaking Hogan and a fan favorite Andre square off in 1980. Andre slams Hogan (left) and underhooks for a suplex (above). Hogan clamps on a chinlock (bottom left) and goes for the bearhug (below). Gorilla Monsoon was special referee for the match.

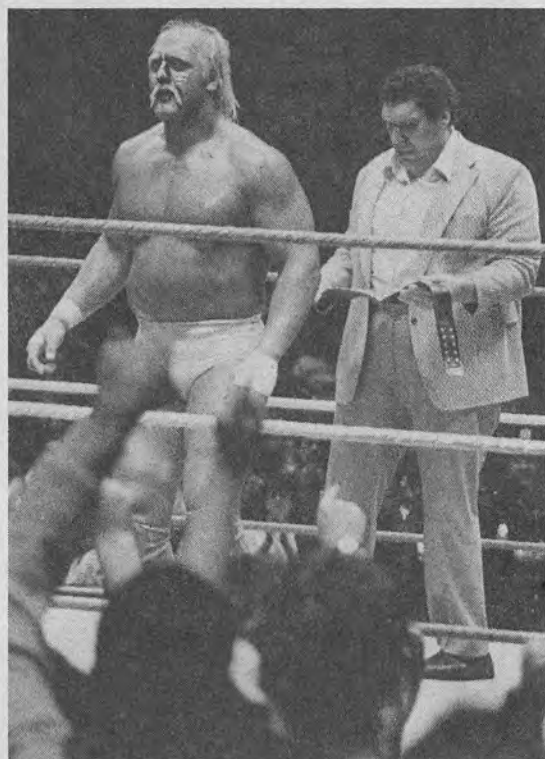
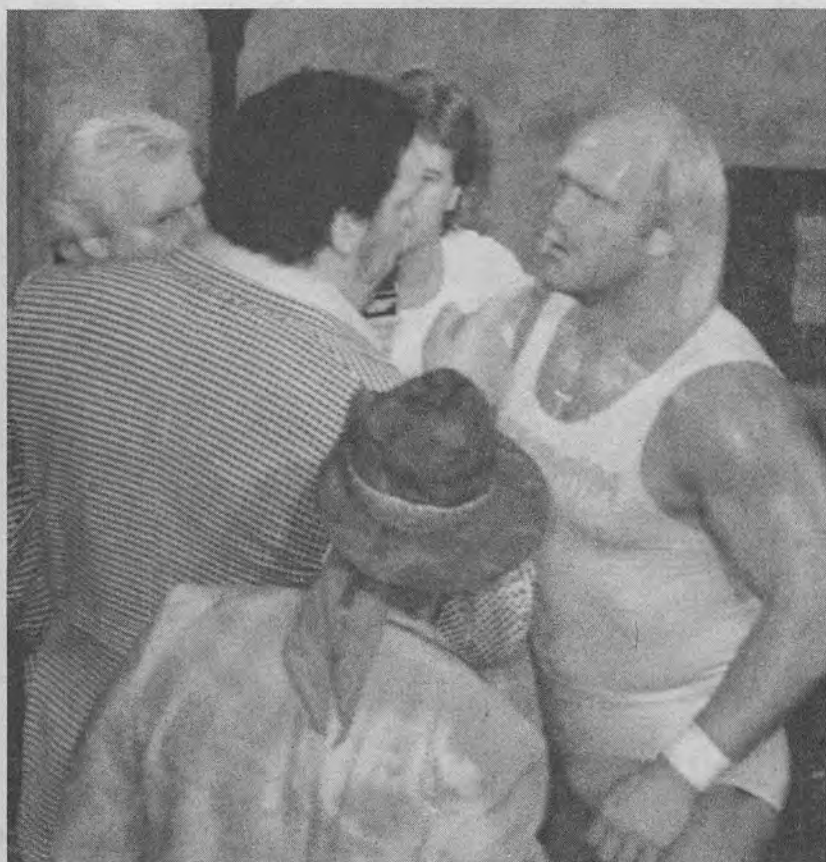




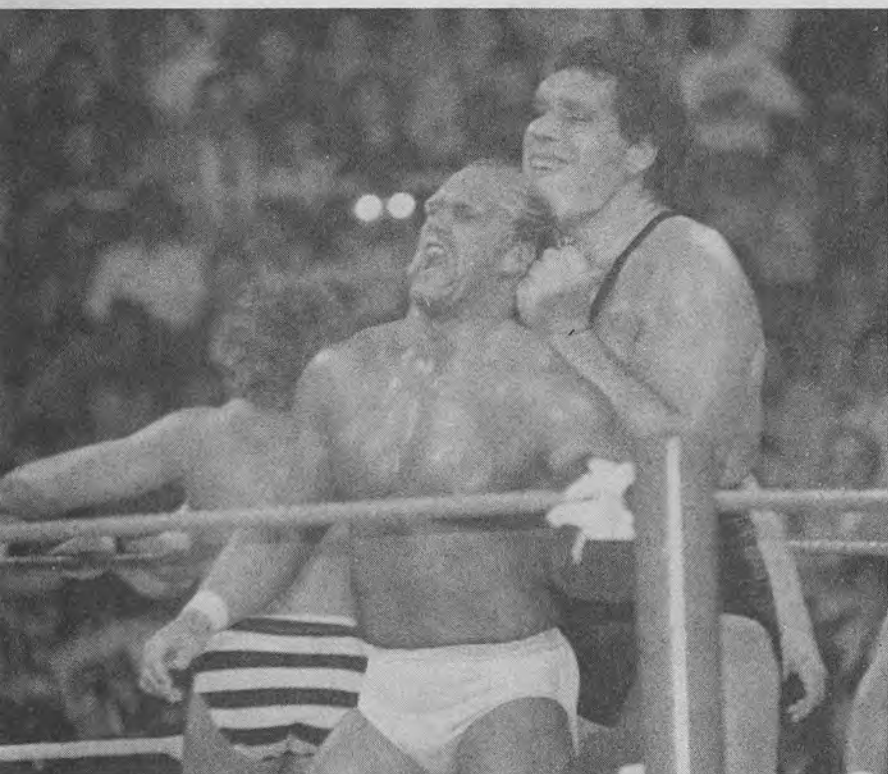


Hogan executes a legdrop at the first of two encounters at Madison Square Garden (above). The two behemoths try to throw each other out of the ring during a Chicago battle royal in 1983 (below). At the famous Shea Stadium match, Hogan applies the camel clutch (right) and Andre bleeds ... for the first time (bottom right).

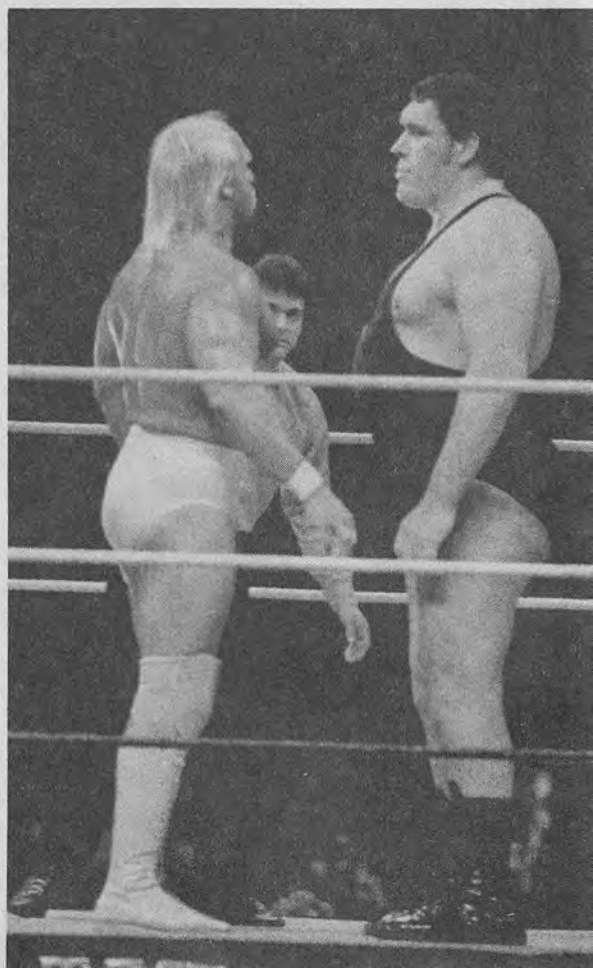




Andre, with his new manager Bobby Heenan, demands a title shot on *Piper's Pit* (left). Hogan just begins to sense Andre's presence when the Giant comes into the ring to examine the belt (above).

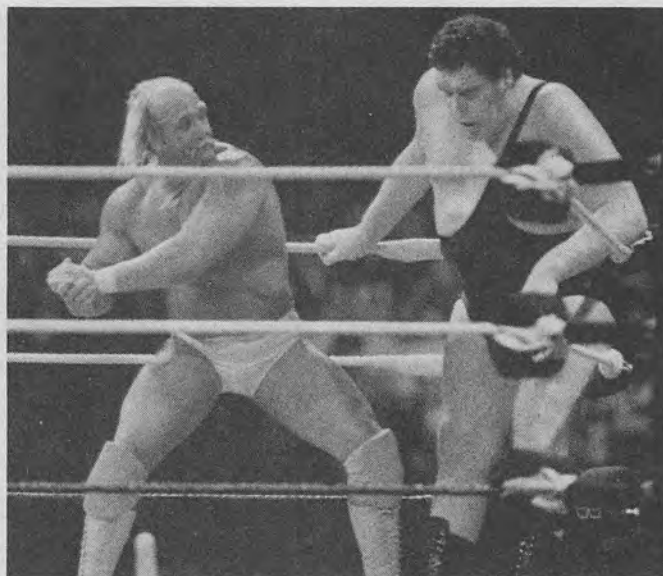
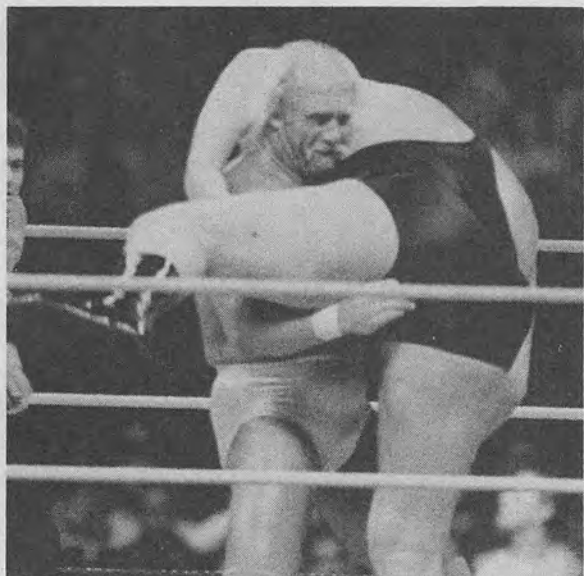


The Giant gets the jump on Hogan in a battle royal weeks before WrestleMania III (above). Finally, for the first time in six years, the combatants face off in front of more than 93,000 fans at WrestleMania III (right).

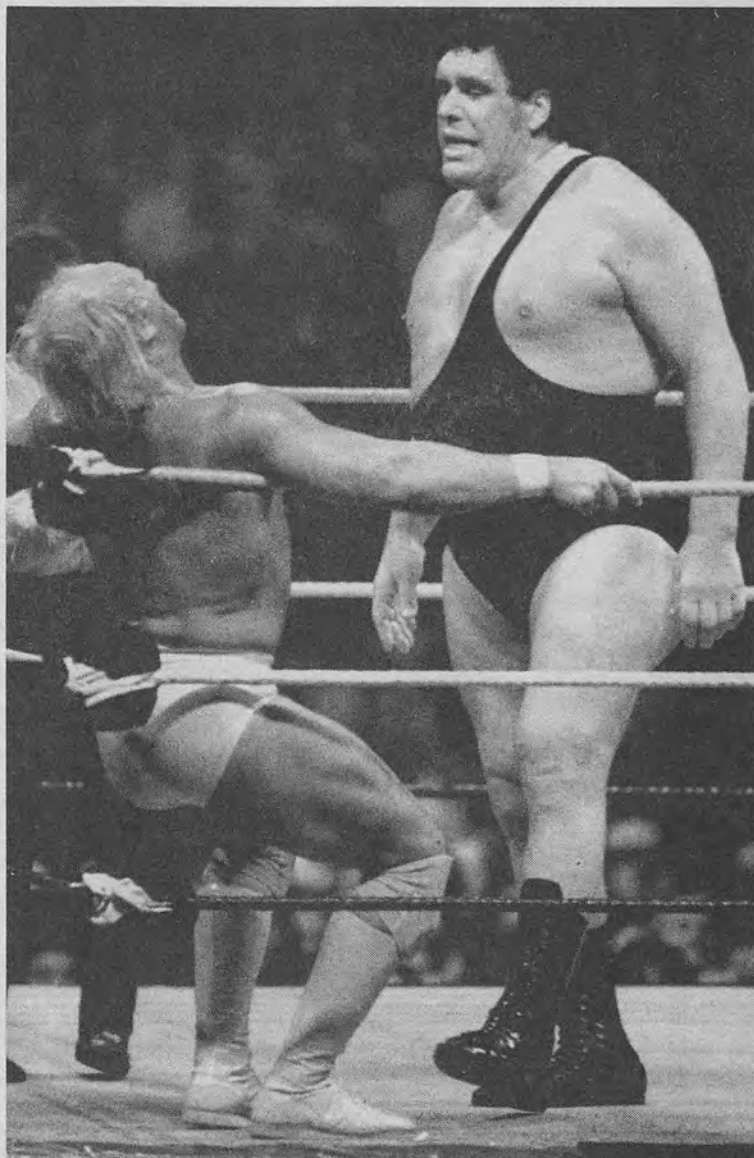
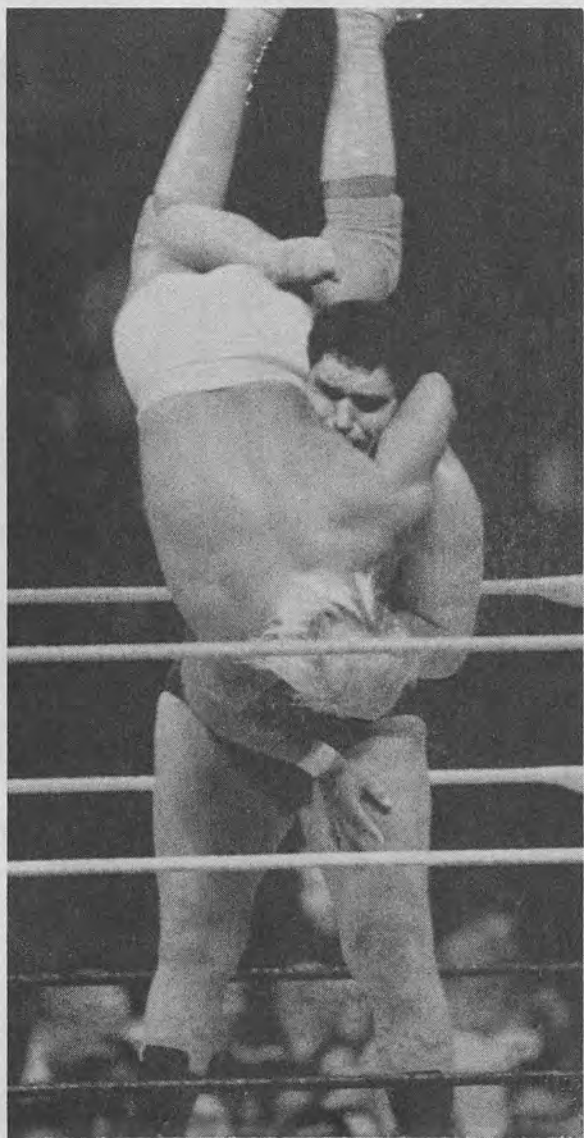




# WRESTLEMANIA

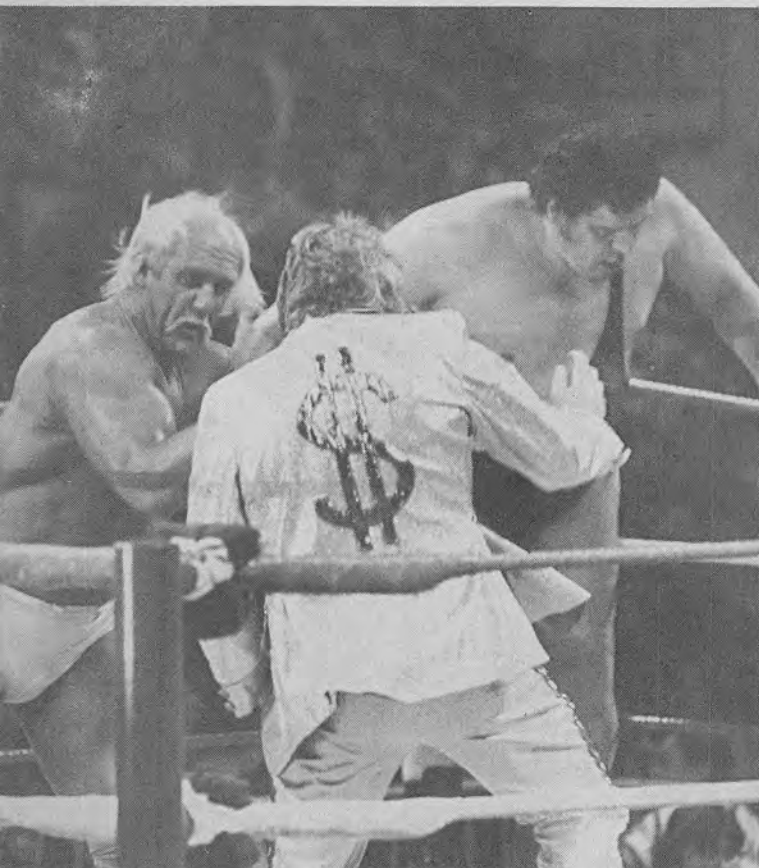
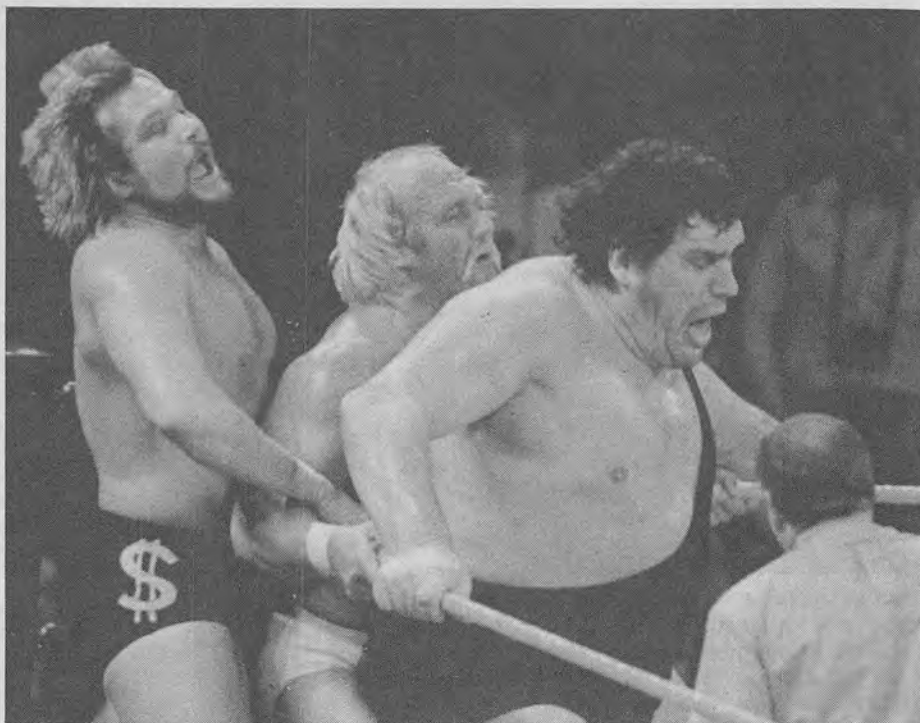


Hogan attempts a slam (above) and chops the Giant against the turnbuckle (top right). Andre slams "The Hulkster" (below) and backs him into a corner (right). Hogan won the match when he slammed Andre, a feat many thought he could never accomplish.

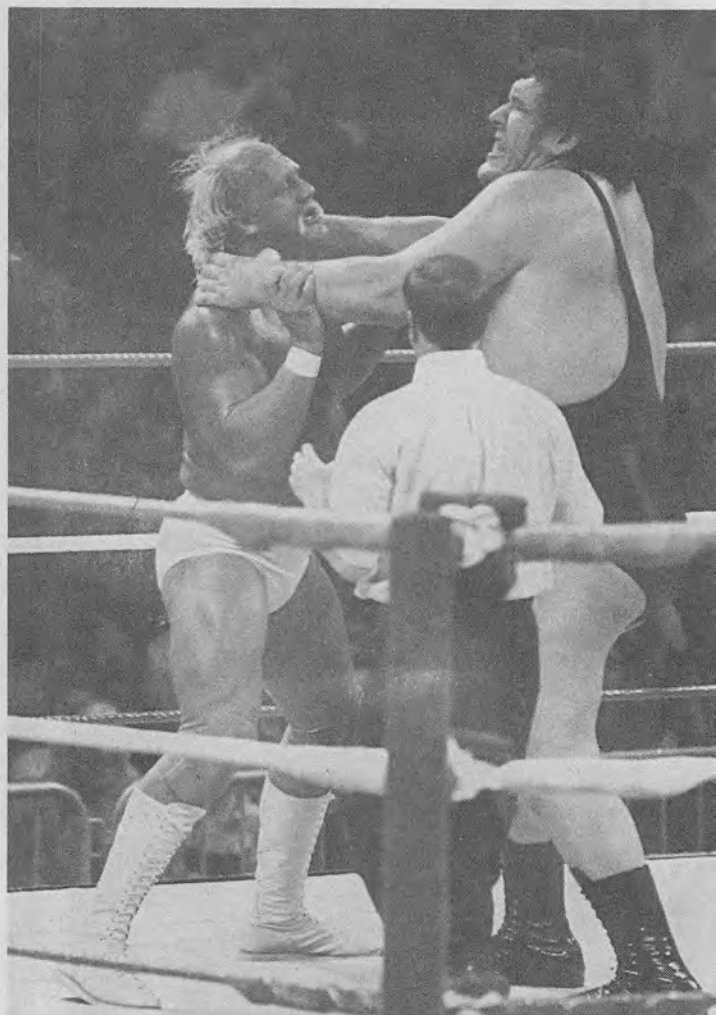




Andre attacks Hogan from behind following Hulk's match against King Kong Bundy (above). Hogan absorbs the full brunt of Andre's force as Ted DiBiase holds him back (right).

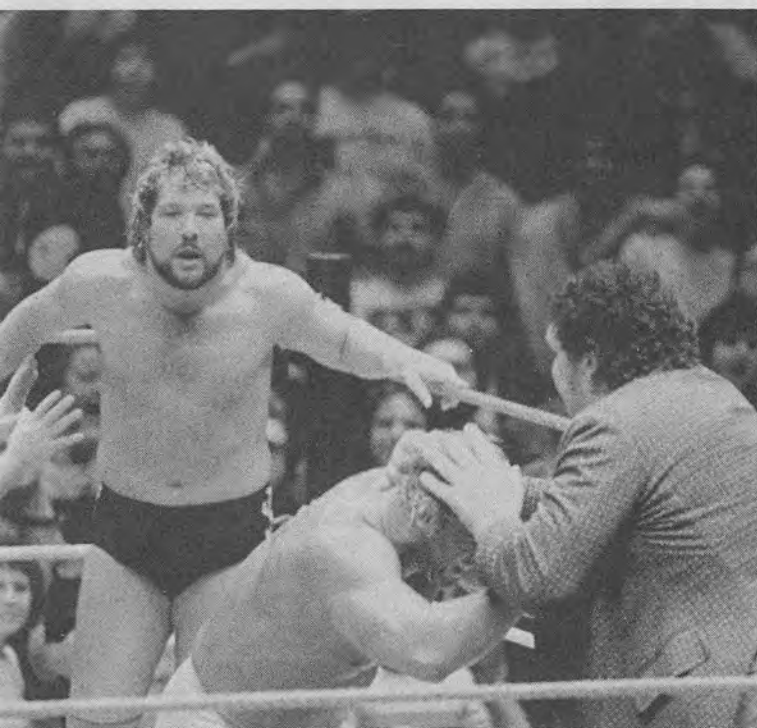


The nationally televised rematch in Indianapolis, some 10 months after WrestleMania III, begins with Hogan knocking DiBiase out of the ring (above). Andre chokes the former champion (right), who was at a considerable disadvantage throughout much of the bout.

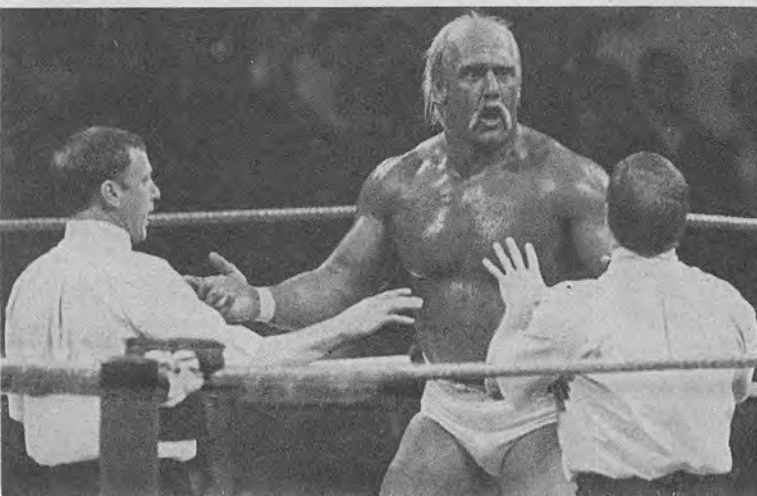
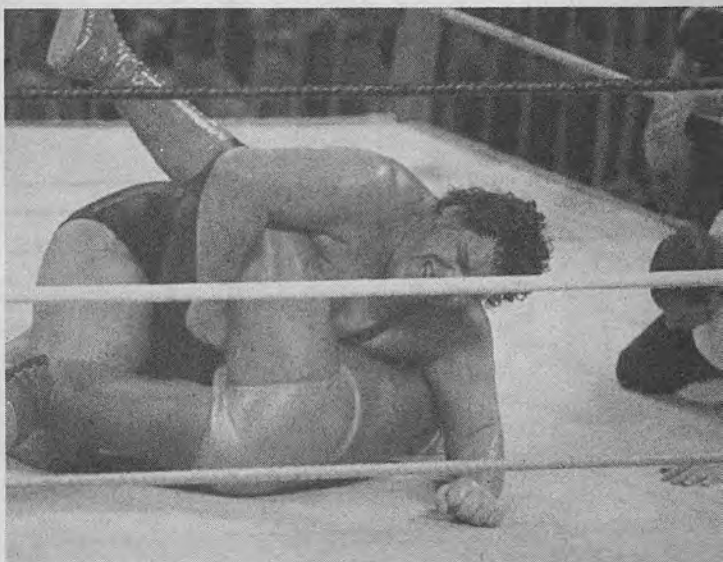
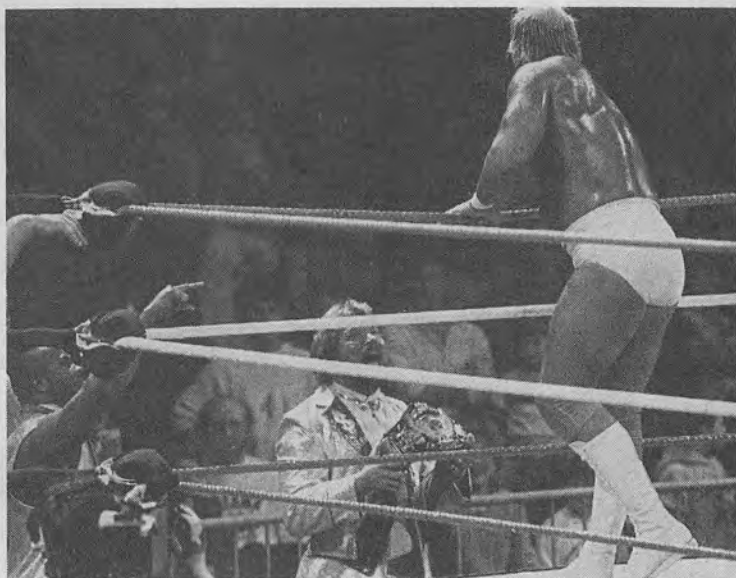
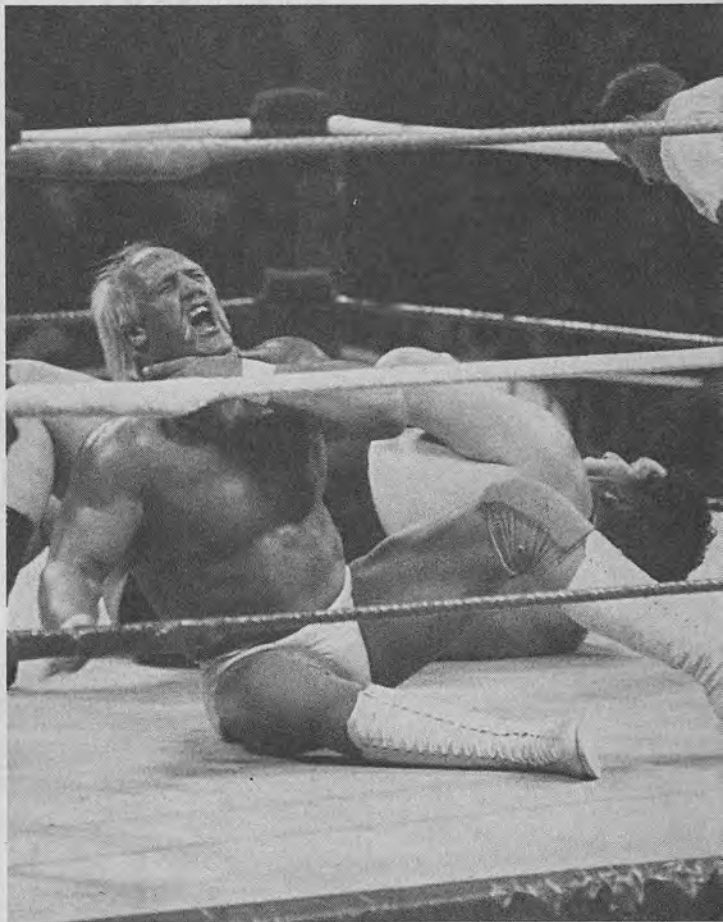




# TITLE REIGN

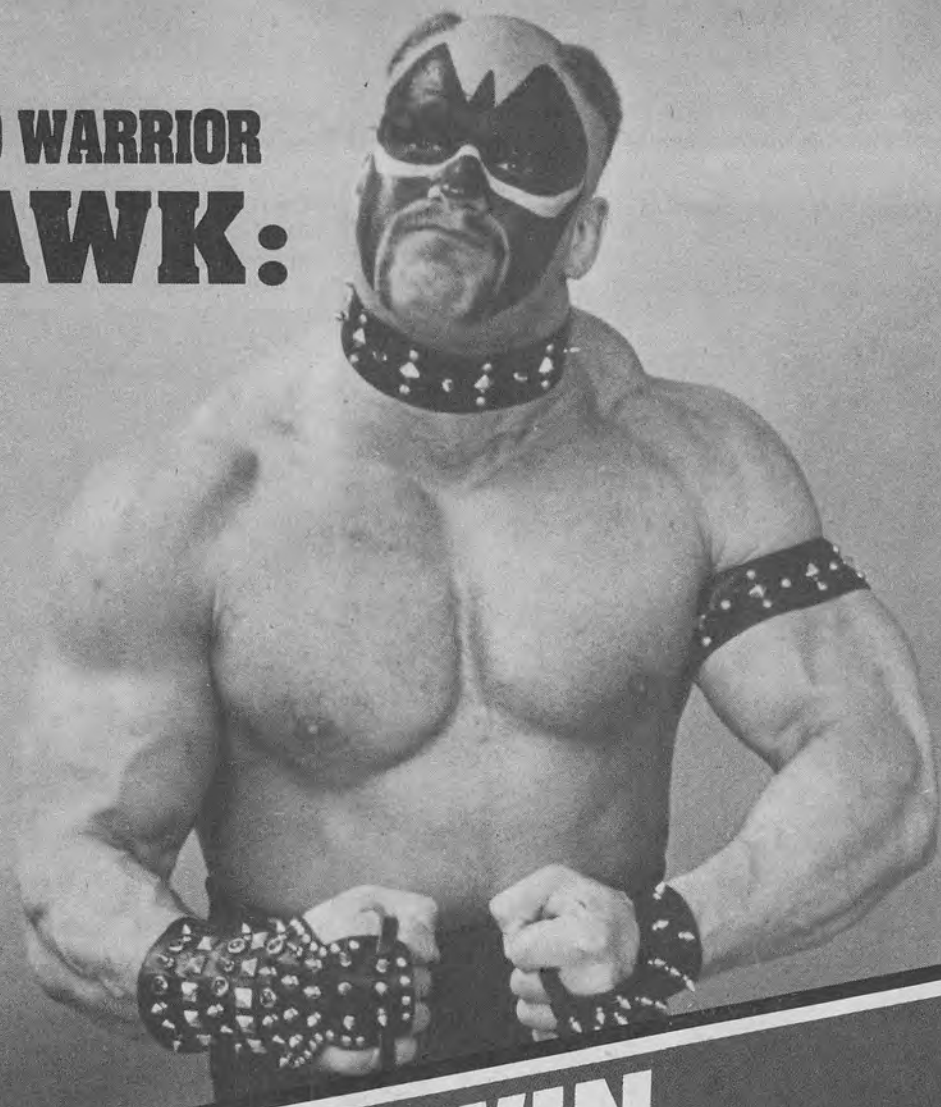


The Giant interferes in a tag team match pitting Hogan and Bam Bam Bigelow against DiBiase and Virgil (left). Andre was eager to please his new manager DiBiase. Hogan gasps for air, but Andre is also in bad shape (below).



Although Hogan's shoulder clearly is off the mat, the referee makes the three-count and Andre apparently is the champion (above). But as expected, the Giant gives the belt to DiBiase (center left). Hogan is stunned when he realizes that an "evil twin" referee cost him the title (left).

# ROAD WARRIOR **HAWK:**



**"WHEN I WIN  
RIC FLAIR'S TITLE,  
I'LL WRESTLE ANIMAL!"**

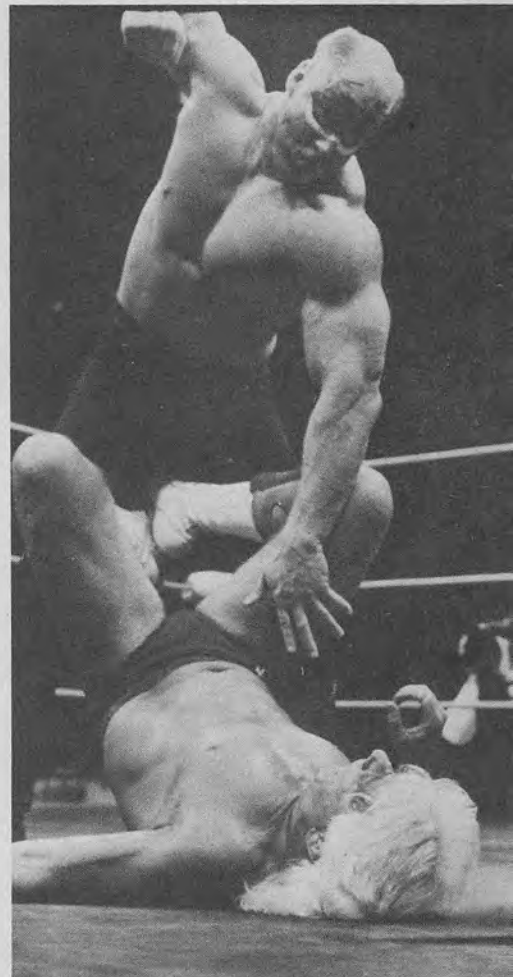
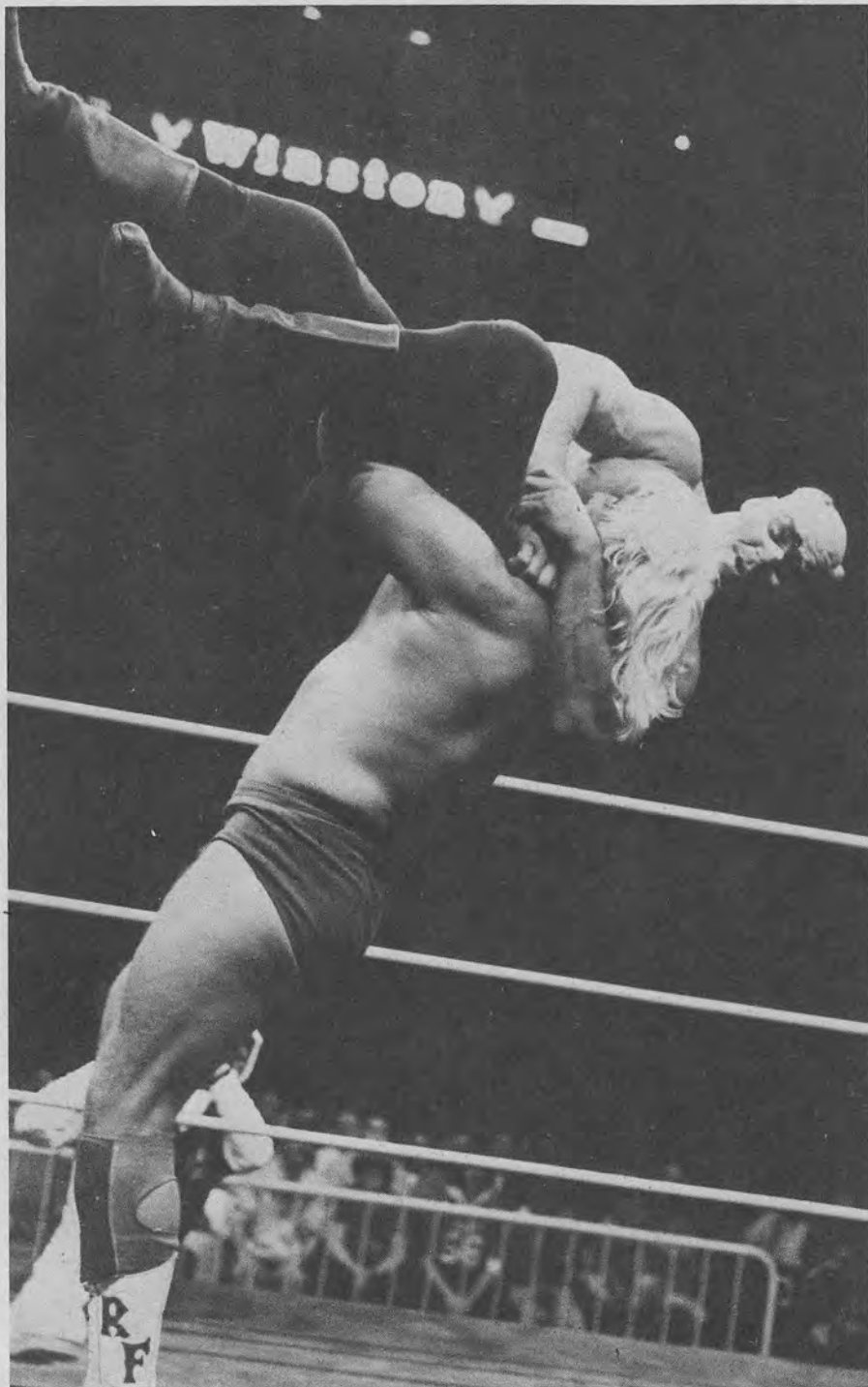
*Road Warrior Hawk has vowed that if he wins the NWA World title from Ric Flair, he will take on all comers . . . including his partner Animal. This may prove popular to the fans, but it may also destroy The Road Warriors as we know them!*



SIX MONTHS AGO, Road Warrior Hawk told anyone who asked him that winning the NWA World title, while it would be a great accomplishment, was not the first thing on his mind. He was, he said, a Road Warrior above all else. Individual honors were secondary to the cause of maintaining his and Animal's place as the number-one tag team in the world.

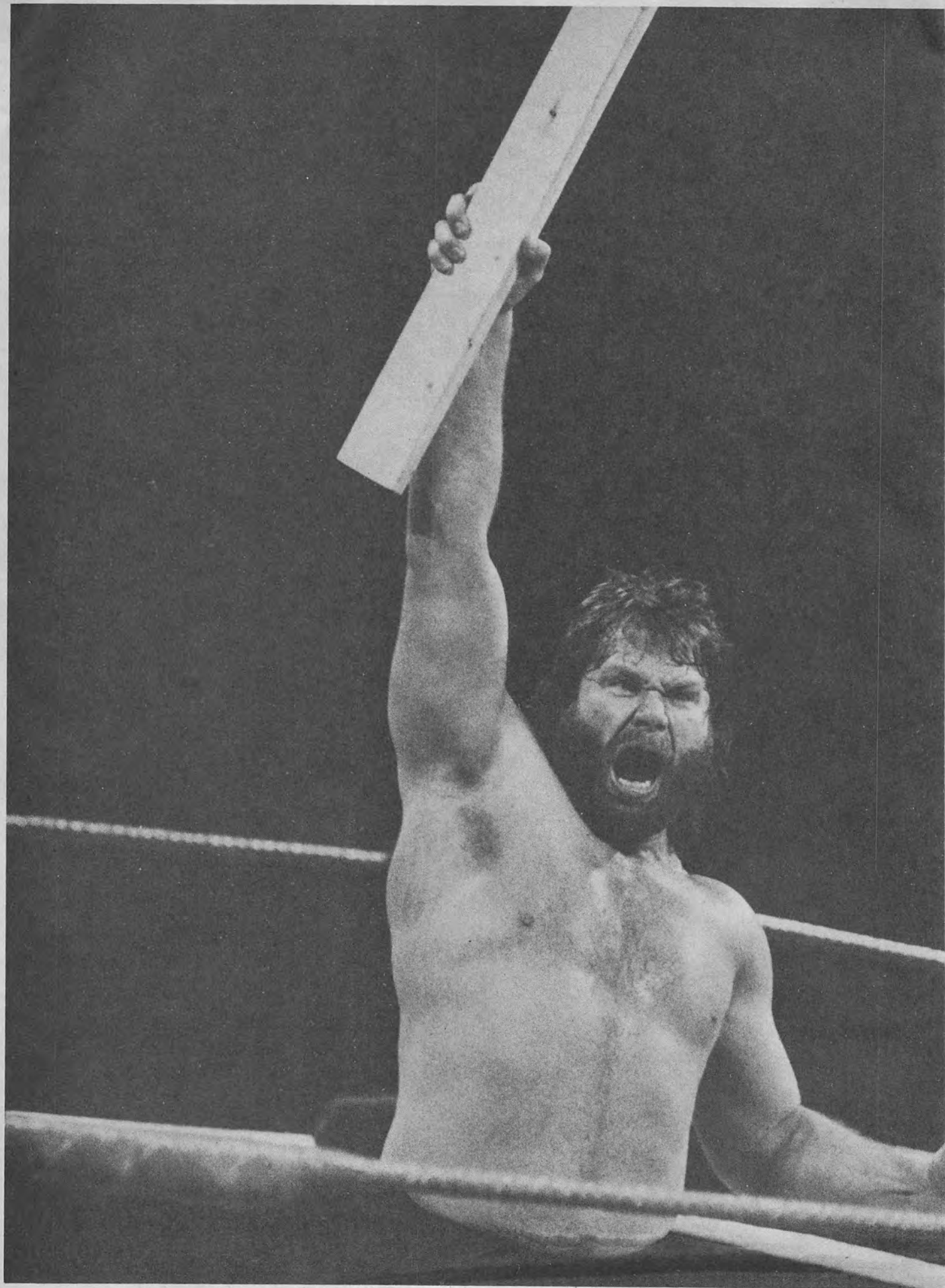
But the more he saw Ric Flair hang on to his belt by disqualifications and questionable pinfalls, the more Hawk longed to rip the belt off Flair's waist and take it for himself. "I may not be the cleanest wrestler in the world," Hawk said, "but at least I'm honest about what I do. Flair is a sneak and, even worse, a coward. He's forgotten what it is to be a champion."

The outcome of a recent Hawk-Flair match at the Nassau Coliseum on Long Island left Hawk even more determined to wrestle the belt from Flair. After a 23-minute battle in which Hawk clearly dominated the action, Flair once again narrowly escaped with his title intact, this time by using a chair handed to him by J.J. Dillon. "He's not gonna  
(Continued on page 54)



Still caught in a headlock, Ric Flair flips Hawk back for a suplex (left) but is helpless to fend off Hawk's powerful punches (above). Hawk is in hot pursuit of the NWA World champion, but his priorities are still with The Road Warriors.

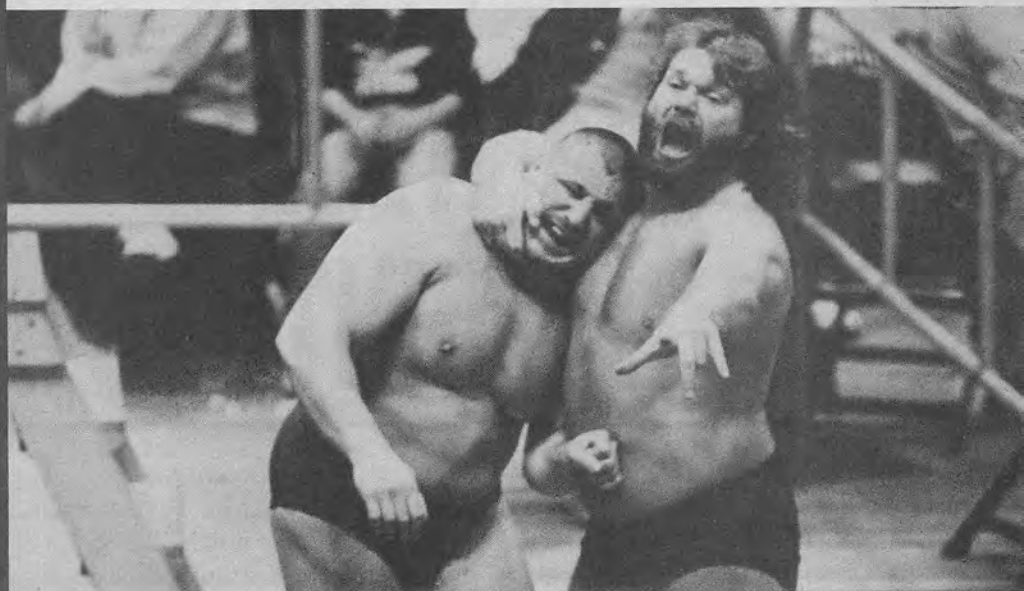
*Photos by Bill Apter*





# Hacksaw On The Cutting Edge: **JIM DUGGAN** MAKES THE MOST OF HIS SECOND CHANCE

*When "Hacksaw" Jim Duggan was arrested last year, it looked like his career was over. But Duggan worked hard to overcome adversity—and to become one of the most popular men in the WWF!*



**W**HEN HACKSAW JIM Duggan ducked a One Man Gang clothesline and sent the 468-pound behemoth flying over the top rope to win the WWF's Royal Rumble in Hamilton, Ontario, it meant more than a national television victory for the popular star.

It meant that Duggan, whose career seemed at an end when he and archrival The Iron Sheik were arrested by New Jersey State Police on drug charges last year, had come full circle and completed a highly unlikely come-

Brandishing his trusty 2x4, Hacksaw Duggan (left) makes a fearsome sight for opponents like Nikolai Volkoff, who's about to be rammed into the ringpost (top). Duggan is just as popular now as he was before his arrest last year.

back. It meant an end to the mean-hearted chants of "Just Say No! Just Say No!" that haunted Duggan ever since his arrest was reported in newspapers around the country.

But most of all it meant that Duggan was now seen as a *winner* by fans across the United States and Canada. Instead of succumbing to a serious career setback, Hacksaw Duggan set an example of himself by making the most of his second chance.

Following his return to the WWF in mid-September, Duggan made it obvious that he hadn't wasted his time away from the ring. He defeated Intercontinental champion The Honky Tonk Man in a non-title bout at the

*(Continued on page 42)*

# *Kansas City Shocker!*

# MIKE GEORGE WINS THE WWA TITLE TOURNAMENT!



**I**N A FASHION, here was an opportunity to become a champion overnight. Former NWA President Bob Geigel, along with several associates, split from the parent federation to form a new alliance, the WWA (World Wrestling Alliance). On January 23, they held a tournament in Kansas City to determine their first heavyweight champion. Participating in the tourney were Kareem Muhammad, Mike George, Dick Slater, Bulldog Bob Brown, Grizzly Boone, Tommy Rich, Masa Chono, Sgt. Slaughter, Cuban Assassin, Stevie Ray, David Shultz, and D.J. Peterson. The wrestlers regarded it as an opportunity to establish their reputation or, in some

cases, revive a floundering career. As former NWA champion Tommy Rich said: "People may dismiss the WWA as the minor leagues, but one look at the talent in this tournament and you realize how high the quality of the wrestling is."

Sgt. Slaughter agreed: "This is real wrestling and a real opportunity. There is very little mobility in the big federations. It can take years to get a title shot, even for the great talents. It's important that good wrestlers support the smaller alliances. Their survival is essential for the survival of the sport."

The split with the NWA, according to Geigel, was inevitable.

"You reach a point where you can

go only so far in a big organization," he explains. "As NWA president, my time was tied up with a lot of official duties, and I couldn't develop some ideas of my own regarding the sport. So a group of officials and myself decided to try it on our own. The WWA's charter is dedicated to providing fans with the best wrestling action there is."

"We will emphasize science over craziness. None of our wrestlers play musical instruments, they don't sing and dance. And the only place to win the title is in the ring; you can't buy it."

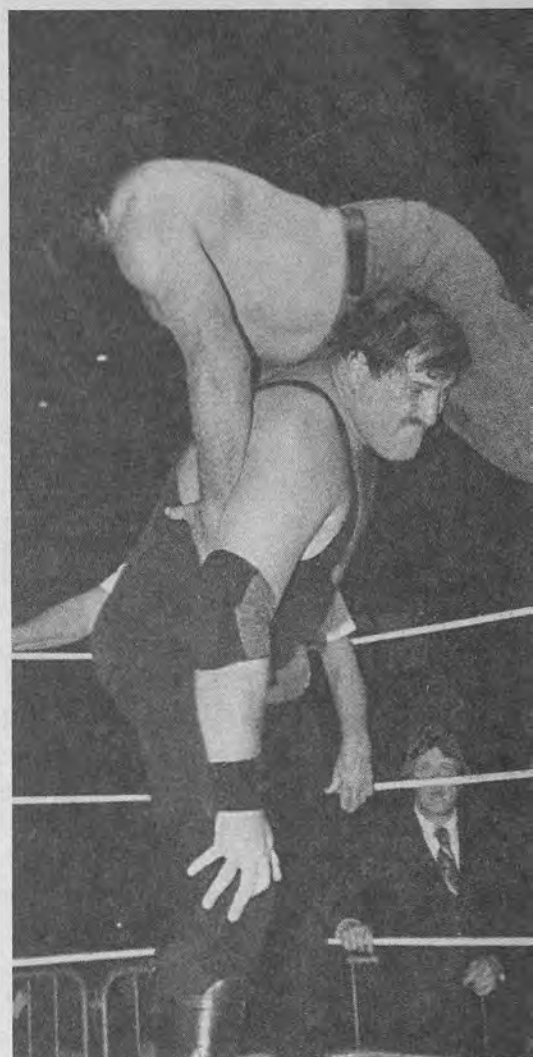
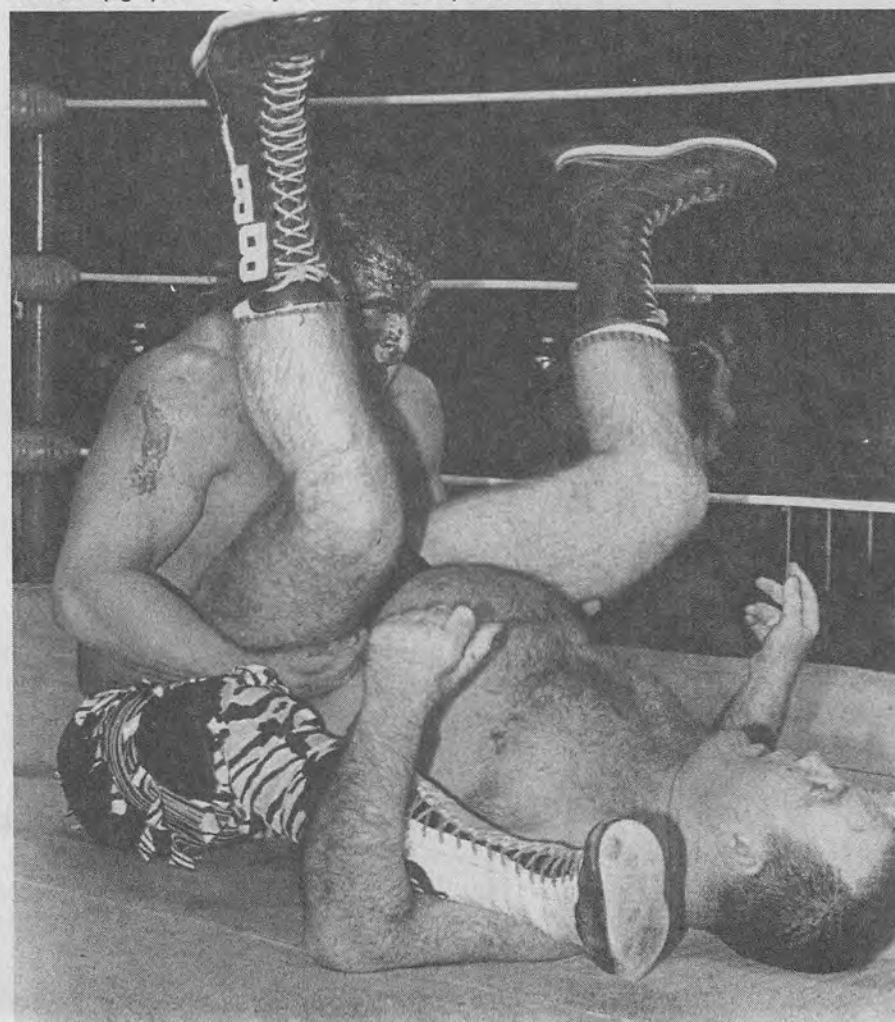
If the inaugural tournament is any indication, the future of the WWA ap-

**Mike George—with more than a little help from a friend—defeated Dick Slater in a tournament final to shock the wrestling world and become the WWA's first heavyweight champion!**





Mike George headlocks Kareem Muhammad (above), whom he beat in the first round of the WWA title tournament. D.J. Peterson catches Bulldog Bob Brown with a sunset flip (below), but did not advance in the tourney. The ever-popular Sgt. Slaughter backflips The Cuban Assassin (right) on the way to a double-disqualification.



pears secure. An enthusiastic crowd packed the Kansas Memorial Hall expecting a series of competitive, action-filled bouts. They were not disappointed.

The opening rounds established the pace immediately. Slaughter and Cuban Assassin slugged each other senseless en route to a double-disqualification. To the dismay of the heavily pro-Slaughter crowd, this eliminated both competitors from title competition.

A similar fate awaited Stevie Ray and David Shultz. Shultz, one of the strong favorites to capture the tournament, controlled most of the match but wound up battling Ray outside the ring. The referee counted both men out, eliminating them from title contention.

Veteran Dick Slater had little difficulty defeating Grizzly Boone. After the bout, he delivered a message to the

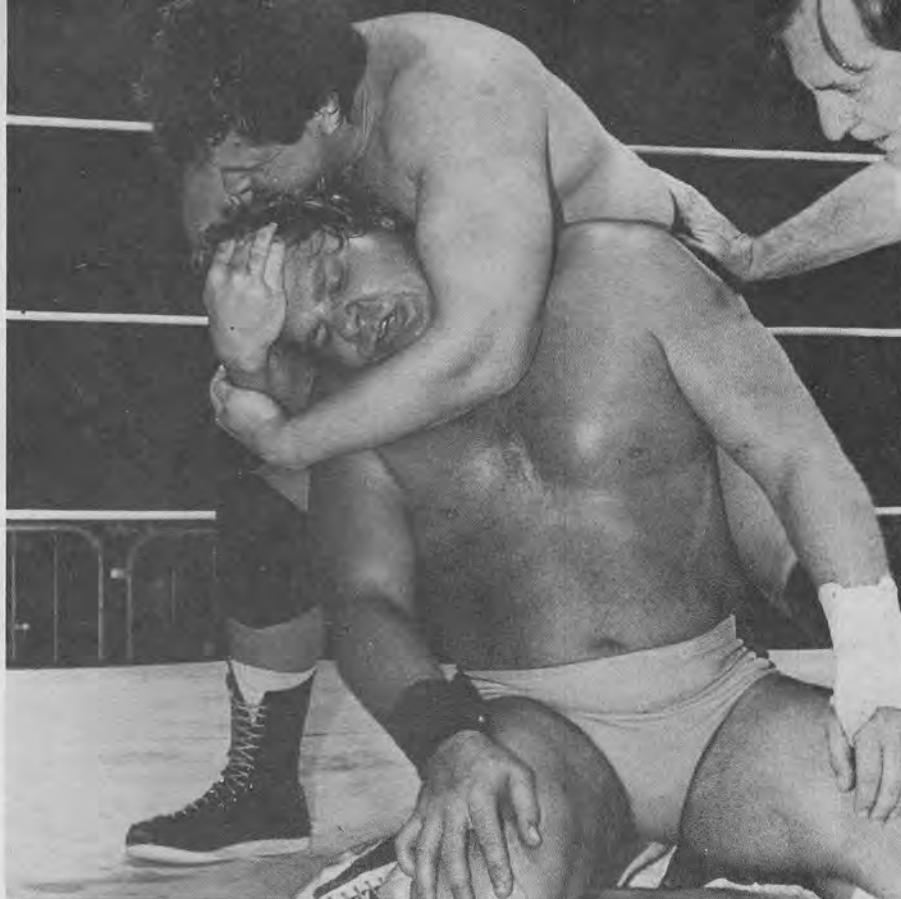


remaining wrestlers. "You peons should quit now, before I have a chance to inflict permanent injury. I aim to become the first WWA heavy-weight champion. I aim to retire the damn belt 10 years from now when this tiny promotion is world-famous. I'm the first and only champion. I am Dick Slater, and the rest of you are scum."

Both Mike George and Bulldog Bob Brown declined Slater's advice and went on to first-round victories. George defeated a stubborn Kareem Muhammad. After the match, Muhammad sneak-attacked George. D.J. Peterson came to his friend's rescue, but was caught by a Muhammad forearm that opened a bloody gash over his eye. Bandaged and bruised, Peterson was unable to get by Bulldog Bob Brown in his first-round match. However, he did injure Brown with a devastating suplex, which forced Brown to forfeit his semifinal match to George.

In the other semifinal bout, a controversy erupted when Slater pinned Tommy Rich while using the ring ropes for leverage. The WWA does not use an instant replay system, so the referee's decision stood. Rich stormed from the arena in disgust.

The final proved to be a fitting conclusion to an exciting evening. Given



In the semifinal match, Dick Slater armbars Tommy Rich (top left). Using the ropes for leverage, Slater pinned Rich to advance to the final, where George slaps on the sleeperhold (above) and pins Slater with a backslide (below).



Slater's disregard for the rules, the match was surprisingly clean and fast-paced. Both men traded advantages several times. George, the underdog despite being a former Central States titlist, used the crowd to his advantage, gathering support and momentum. The end came after a brief flurry in the corner. George whipped Slater into the

ropes and followed up with a perfect backslide for the pin. The World Wrestling Alliance had its first champion, a man thought to have one of the longest longshot chances of winning the tournament. The fans were shocked but happy.

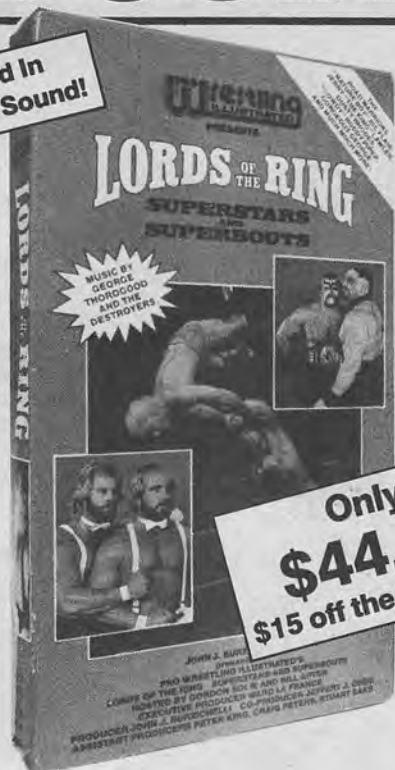
"I would first like to thank my good friend D.J. Peterson, who might be here instead of me if he wasn't so damned courageous," said George at the postmatch press conference. "Muhammad was ready to put me out, but D.J. took the blow for me. Then he goes and suplexes Bob Brown out of the tournament. He made my job easy."

Still, George had to defeat a wily Dick Slater for the crown. "It was a great match. It feels great to be wearing this belt. The fans enjoyed it. The wrestlers enjoyed it. And I'm on top of the world. Lots of great talent is gonna be gunning for this crown, and I'm ready for them. We're going to put Kansas City back on the wrestling map. This alliance is going places, and I'm overjoyed to be leading the way!" □



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## HACKSAW DUGGAN

(Continued from page 37)



Hacksaw crowns "King" Harley Race with his 2x4. The Race-Duggan feud started when Hacksaw refused to bow down to Race, so Duggan took it upon himself to rid the WWF of Race's false kingdom. With Race under control, Duggan can now concentrate on winning the World or Intercontinental titles.

Capital Centre in Landover, Maryland, easily pinned Nikolai Volkoff in several October matches, and then engaged in a wild feud with Harley Race and Race's manager Bobby Heenan.

Although Race gained the upper hand early in their war, Duggan soon took control. In January, Duggan easily pinned the former seven-time NWA

World champion in several meetings. Now, having finally disposed of Race, Duggan is prepared to go after either the WWF Intercontinental belt or the World heavyweight title. He was among those entered in the WWF World title tournament scheduled for WrestleMania IV.

Duggan, a former Mid-South North



American champion, is certainly capable of getting the job done. Although his detractors view Duggan as a comic book character—and his habit of bringing a 2x4 into the ring and shouting at the top of his lungs does nothing to dispel this image—the truth is that he has long been one of the most charismatic and talented wrestlers in the sport.

\*\*\*

Former UWF President Bill Watts speaks fondly of Hacksaw Jim Duggan.



Duggan pummels Volkoff mercilessly. Hacksaw has always been one of the most patriotic men in the sport.

"Country boy types just don't seem to meet with much success in the WWF. Hillbilly Jim had a good start and then died, the fans hate The Honky Tonk Man, and The Freebirds, who really aren't country boys but certainly

(Continued on page 44)

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## HACKSAW DUGGAN

(Continued from page 43)



Duggan kicks Race in the midsection. Hack-saw was very popular in the South years before he arrived in the WWF.

represent a Southern viewpoint, didn't last more than a week or so. On the other hand, Rick Martel, Tito Santana, Randy Savage, Rick Steamboat, Hulk Hogan, Roddy Piper—a more sophisticated brand of wrestler—seems to really have the competitive edge.

"Duggan definitely falls into the country boy category," Watts continued. "He was born in Glens Falls, New York, which isn't a small town but certainly isn't very big by any means. The thing is that coming from a place like Glens Falls, he had to scrape and claw like a cat to get anywhere in this sport. When you come from a small town, you're likely to do almost anything to make your name known. It's tough, and sometimes you end up flat on your back. But you just have to suck it up, spit it out, and try to carry your own load."

"Hackshaw *did* make it big when he was in the UWF, and he was about to

(Continued on page 46)



# Wrestling

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March 1984/Starrcade '83, Closeups on Atlanta and Dallas cards.

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DECEMBER 1985

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## HACKSAW DUGGAN

(Continued from page 44)

make it even bigger in the WWF," observes Associate Editor Dave Rosenbaum. "When he first went there, the fans loved him right away. You know, they knew he was a bit of a hick, but he seemed genuine and really related to the fans. Besides, they hated the Sheik. Then he got arrested with the Sheik and it looked like it was all over. My guess is that while he was under suspension by the WWF he said to himself, *You know, if I ever make it back there, I'm never gonna make the same mistake again. I'm gonna show them what Hacksaw Duggan is made of.* Duggan is a determined young man, and he knows what he's after."

\*\*\*

Duggan's victory in the Royal Rumble wasn't pretty, but nothing Duggan does ever is. He was the 13th man to enter the ring, but before he was half-way down the runway he got attacked by Race. Once in the ring, Duggan managed to hold off several attackers, but he was unable to eliminate any wrestlers.

Finally, Duggan, Magnificent Muraco, One Man Gang, and Dino Bravo were the only four men remaining. Muraco was eliminated by a One Man Gang clothesline, and Duggan was left to fight off two of the most vicious rulebreakers in the WWF.

Gang and Bravo tried to double-clothesline Duggan, but Hacksaw ducked out of the way. Gang accidentally clotheslined Bravo, sending him over the rope. Gang then went after Duggan and gained an immediate advantage. He tried to put Hacksaw away with a clothesline, but Duggan ducked down at the last minute. Gang, who had eliminated six men before losing, walked away with nothing. Duggan eliminated only one man—and that by mistake—but walked away with the glory.

Duggan had once again overcome style with substance. And made the most of a second chance most people are never lucky enough to get. □





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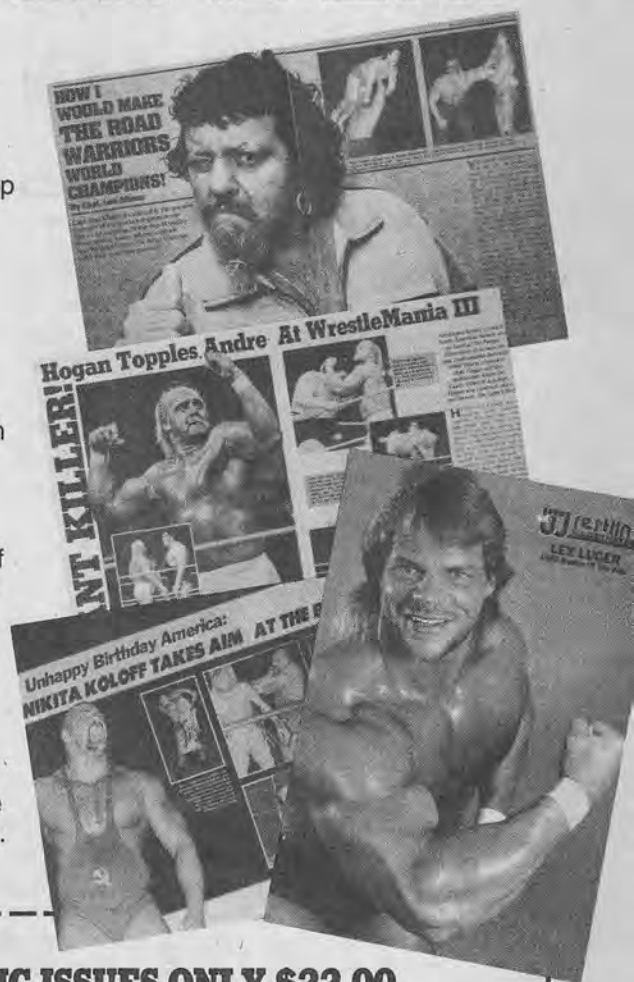
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## MAILBAG

(Continued from page 6)

team in wrestling today. While in my opinion they are being wasted in the WWF, under the proper guidance these ladies could be world champions for a long time.

Hulk Hogan finally did something that impressed me by telling that scum Ted DiBiase "Hell, no!" to his repulsive offer to buy the WWF World title. Your money can buy a lot of things, DiBiase, but championships are *earned*, not bought. Hogan told DiBiase that if he wants a world title he'll have to take it, something I don't think he can do. That's why he left the NWA and the UWF. I'm sure Hogan had a good laugh.

The WWF needs to incorporate Intercontinental tag team belts into their organization; a lot of wrestlers there are deserving of titles. Thanks to Strike Force's victory over The Hart Foundation, the WWF now has champions to be proud of.

As great a wrestler as Ron Garvin is, I knew he wouldn't hold the NWA World title for long. He found out just like Kerry Von Erich and a few others just how hard it is to fill Ric Flair's alligator shoes.

The Road Warriors should be defending their All-Japan International title more often, both on television and in arenas around the country. The same goes for The Midnight Express and their U.S. tag team belts.

"Dr. Death" Steve Williams cannot be faulted for what happened at Starrcade '87; he did what he had to do, just like Barry Windham should have.

CURTIS BELLAMY  
Fairfield, CA

### BAD ADVICE

An open letter to Jim Cornette:

When I submitted my question to this excellent magazine ("Ask The Stars," March 1988), it was with the intention of *wrestlers* answering it, not skinny geek managers who hide behind their "wrestlers." I did not and do not want your advice. Your "pearls of wis-





Jim Cornette, manager of The Midnight Express, shouldn't speak when he's not spoken to, writes John Barnett.

dom" are more like meadow muffins of crap.

I greatly appreciated the advice of Dusty Rhodes, Barry Windham, Jerry Lawler, Curt Hennig, Terry Taylor, Brian Adias, Shaun Simpson, Doug Furnas, and Tully Blanchard!

I could take [Bobby] Eaton, [Stan] Lane, and [Bubba] Rogers in my sleep, with a competent tag team partner. I could wipe up the mat with them, after which I'd slap the figure-four on your spindly frame and break your knees again.

Remember this, Cornette: When, in about three years, you're clamoring to manage me, the answer will be *no*. I may even clean your clock just for asking.

JOHN BARNETT  
Crowell, TX

### BLOWN COVERAGE

Your recent cover stories are not related to what is important in your magazines. For example, you put that human greaseball The Honky Tonk Man on the cover of your January 1988 issue, while you should have had either Ronnie Garvin or Magnum T.A. On the March 1988 cover, you put two

(Continued on page 50)

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**WINTER 1985/Color pinups:** Flair-Kevin Von Erich, Hayes-Hawk, Hogan-Fujinami, DiBiase-Roberts. **Stories include:** Orndorff, Warriors, Brody, Shultz, Duggan.

**SPRING 1986/Color pinups:** Windham-Sullivan, Andre-Bundy, Taylor-Landell, Hernandez-Kerry. **Stories include:** R&R Express, Warriors, Hogan, Santana, Rude, Williams.

**SUMMER 1986/Color pinups:** Luger-Barr, Garvin-Flair, Nord-Hawk, Missy-Sunshine. **Stories include:** Warriors-Russians, Savage-Hogan, Kevin Von Erich, Bulldogs.

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**SPRING 1987/Color pinups:** Von Erich-Zulu, Roberts-Hillbilly, Morton-Anderson, DiBiase-Hayes. **Stories include:** Bigelow, Flair, Hogan, Luger, Race, Windham, Hyatt.

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**MAILBAG**

(Continued from page 49)

small pictures of Ric Flair vs. Ronnie Garvin and Lex Luger vs. Dusty Rhodes, but you put a big picture of Andre the Giant. What's the deal? Starrcade should have been the *only* thing on the cover!

SLOAN THOMPSON  
Winterset, IA

**DISAPPOINTMENT**

I paid \$14.95 to see the Bunkhouse Stampede finals on pay-per-view TV and felt ripped-off after it ended. The WWF's pay-per-view events last at least three hours, while the Bunkhouse Stampede was barely two!

The Stampede itself was an excellent match, though more than eight wrestlers should have been involved. The undercard, however, was only fair, not great. The Nikita Koloff vs. Bobby Eaton match was incredibly boring, the Flair-Hawk match somewhat predictable, and while I'm glad Larry Zbyszko pinned Barry Windham for the Western States belt, the match was not

that exciting.

That same night, the WWF had their Royal Rumble, which I watched the next day when it was repeated. I would have rather paid \$14.95 to see that, and it was free! The Jumping Bomb Angels beating The Glamour Girls for the belts was definitely the best women's match I've ever seen. It was exciting from start to finish. Rick Rude vs. Rick Steamboat was also good, and The Royal Rumble was great! Many fan favorites got their tails kicked in this one. It's a shame Hack-saw Duggan (who won) wasn't one of them.

I believe the Crockett Cup will be on pay-per-view, so I'm giving the NWA one more chance, but if it's only two hours, I won't be watching it!

CHRIS BORS  
Ithaca, NY



Strike Force's WWF World title victory over The Hart Foundation was untainted, says Jim Sloan.

**THEY STRUCK WITH FORCE**

This is in response to "Didn't Strike Force Win?" ("Mailbag," March 1988). As soon as I read this letter from David Hayes in Indiana, I went to my VCR and watched the Strike Force-Hart Foundation match again.

David wrote that Jim Neidhart came in without the tag from Brett Hart before submitting to Rick Martel's Boston crab. Well, David, Brett *did* tag Jim. I think *you* should look *your* tapes over, not WWF President Jack Tunney. Watch carefully, they tagged at the same time Strike Force did.

JIM SLOAN  
Bucyrus, OH ☐

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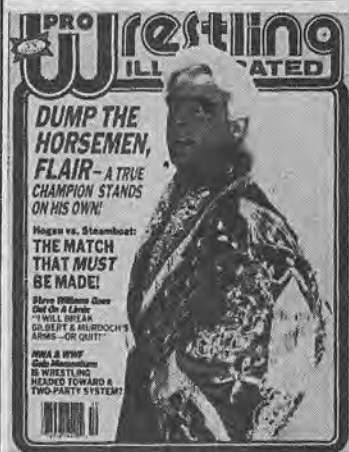
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**October 1987/COLOR PINUP:** Ted DiBiase, Ric Flair, Williams, Rockers, Hogan vs. Steamboat, NWA & WWF.

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## INTERVIEW

(Continued from page 24)

World champion Curt Hennig. Any truth to that?

**A:** Look, Curt is an excellent wrestler and a great guy, and I'll admit that we've had some discussion. What manager *wouldn't* want to guide a man of Curt's talents? But we both decided he'd be better off on his own. For now.

**Q:** Did Larry Hennig have anything to do with that decision?

**A:** Absolutely not. Curt doesn't have to go running off to Daddy every time he has a decision to make. He's his own man. There's nothing wrong with having his father join him at ringside. Larry Hennig was a legend in his time. I know a lot of wrestlers who'd value his advice. He and Curt have their own thing going, and if they don't want Paul E. Dangerously on their side, so be it. That's their loss. As I said, I have many other options. You wouldn't believe the number of calls and letters I get from wrestlers begging me to manage them. You know, I'll give the fans credit for at least one thing. They were smart enough to vote me third runner-up for *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* Manager of the Year. Of course I should have won outright, but that really helped my stock go up. The common folk can be a *little* smart. Sometimes.

**Q:** We've also heard that you were offered a contract to manage in the World Class area. Again, any truth to this?

**A:** No comment, but I'd love to assemble a team and go down to Texas to beat up those horse-faced Von Erichs. *There's* a group of so-called legends just ripe for a taste of my unique brand of destruction. I'm like a rare treasure, just waiting for a nation of wrestling fans to discover me. And by the time they do, I'll be in complete control of this sport. This is, indeed, the era of living Dangerously—*Paul E.*, that is! □



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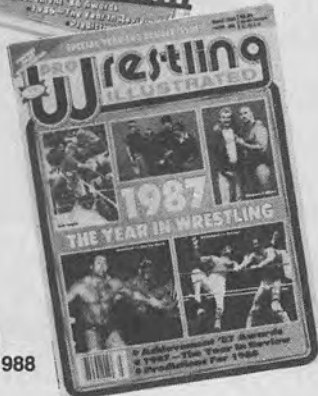
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## HAWK VS. FLAIR

(Continued from page 35)



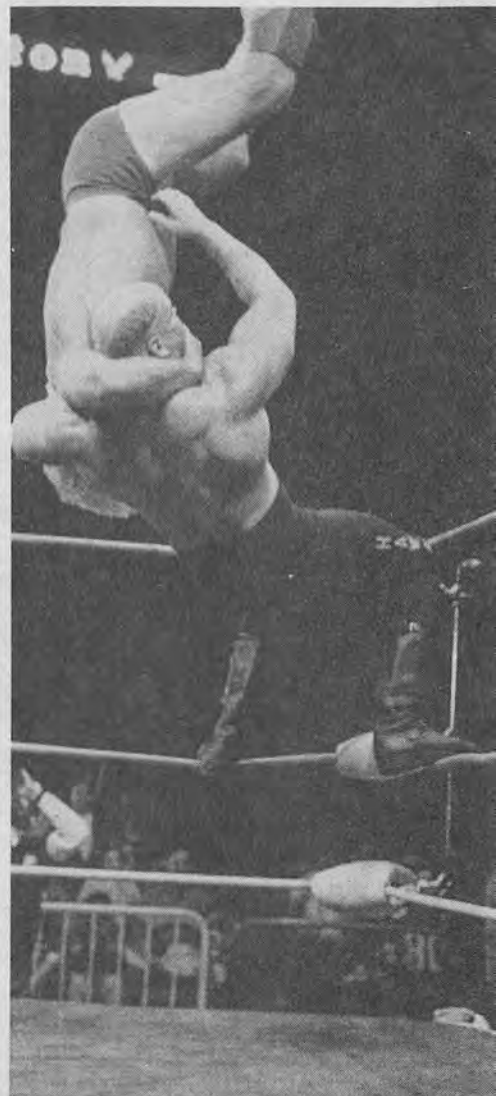
A vicious Hawk rakes Flair's eyes, then delivers a stunning superplex off the middle rope. The Road Warrior has had the upper hand in most of his matches against "The Nature Boy," but circumstances have prevented him from capturing the World title.

keep getting away with that kind of crap," Hawk swore. "He's afraid to fight me, so I gotta go to him. And I'm on the move. That slimy punk doesn't deserve to be champion of anything."

Flair may not deserve to be champion, but does Hawk? Think about it. If Hawk were to win wrestling's top prize, he'd have to spend the bulk of his time defending it. As a result, he would have less time to team with Animal. In time, the Warriors would lose their winning edge and, eventually, both men would probably decide to part ways, lest the Warriors become a shell of their former greatness.

"Psychologically," Flair said, "that's the reason he'll never beat me. Subconsciously, Hawk knows that if he wins, The Road Warriors are finished as a team. He realizes he'd be nowhere without that partner of his. So, you see, as hard as he tries, and as much as he thinks he wants it, he'll never wear this belt. It's that simple."

"Bull!" responded Paul Ellering, manager of The Road Warriors. "That's a ridiculous argument. Hawk is no mere mortal of an ath-





lete. He's been trained to do things no ordinary wrestler can. He is quite capable of wrestling as a single and a tag wrestler. Any suggestion otherwise is absurd. Hawk will prove that when he wins the title."

Both Hawk and Animal have, over the past four years, led us to believe that they're virtually unbeatable. They give off an aura of invincibility unmatched by anyone, let alone any *team*, in the sport. When they do lose, it's usually due to some controversy—as in the loss of their AWA tag team title to Jim Garvin and Steve Regal, when The Freebirds interfered.

"They're a tough team to beat, that's for sure," said Gordon Solie, who became familiar with the Warriors during their rookie year in Georgia. "And they're extremely good friends. Although I could imagine the circumstances where they'd wrestle each other, I still don't see it happening. I'd wager that if Hawk wins the belt, he'll avoid Animal, but in a friendly way. I think they're both smart enough to realize what would happen if they clash. The repercussions of such a match would be astounding."

Hawk disagrees. "Hey, Gordon's an expert, but he's not a mindreader. When I say I'll fight *anybody*, I mean it! That includes my brother Animal. Hell, he'd deserve a title shot more than anybody else. I don't see anybody else who's done more for it than Animal. He wants the title as much as I do. I know that for a fact!"

"Yeah, I could do a lot with that belt," Animal said. "Call my own shots. Wrestle *who* I want, *where* I want, *when* I want. But Hawk's after it now, and I have no problem with that. And if he won and then offered me a match, I'd take it in a second. I'd be preparing to win, but I could also see myself losing; Hawk's the only man in the world capable of beating me one on one. He's also the only man who

(Continued on page 56)

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## HAWK VS. FLAIR

(Continued from page 55)



Unable to overpower or outwrestle his challenger, Flair has often resorted to illegal methods to retain the World championship against Hawk. But if Flair does lose the belt, will he find himself waiting in line behind Road Warrior Animal for a title shot?

wouldn't be afraid to wrestle me straight up. He's the toughest man I know, and I'm the toughest man *he* knows."

If the two Warriors wrestled, it naturally follows that one of them would have to lose, because neither man would stand for a double-DQ or countout. "They'd rather die than not have a conclusive winner," Ellering said. "Forget about a time limit, these men would fight for hours. That's what they're made of. That's why they're The Road Warriors, the greatest fighters on this planet. 'Snacking on danger and dining on death' isn't an empty motto; it's a way of life few understand. Sometimes the boys communicate in ways even *I* don't comprehend.

"As for the result," Ellering continued, "I wouldn't dare pick a win-

ner. There are too many factors involved. Too many different things could happen. I know too much about both men to give either an edge. Animal is stronger, but Hawk is faster. I'm not gonna make any kind of prediction, I have to live with both these guys—I don't need an angry Road Warrior on my hands!"

Hawk-Animal would unquestionably be one of the great matches of the decade, but it could well lead to the destruction of The Road Warriors, something surely neither man would want. Hawk must think very carefully about the consequences of his World title desires. *Be careful what you wish for, because you may get it.* It's an old adage, but one from which the Warriors—and particularly Hawk, right now—could learn a great deal. ☐



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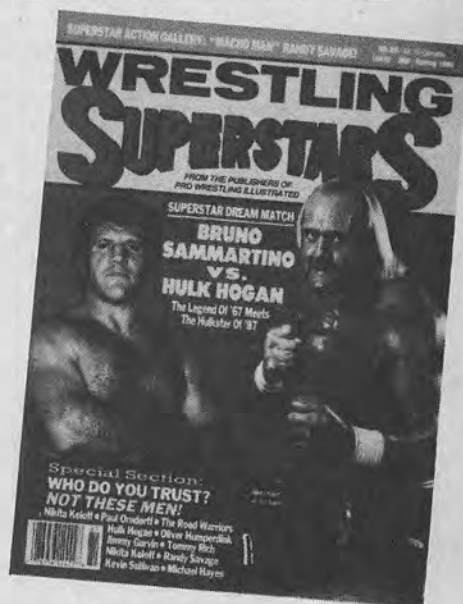
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## WE ACCUSE

(Continued from page 10)

immoral for a champion to sell or hand over his belt to another wrestler. He also ruled that Andre had given up the belt, meaning there was no champion and the title was vacant. This made sense, although the decision came too late.

In his most incomprehensible ruling of all, however, Tunney decided that while the referee who worked the match was not Dave Hebner, the pin was valid because the imposter referee was working in the capacity of "official referee."

Preposterous—or, perhaps, we should say *imposterous*!

The imposter may have been *work-ing* in the capacity of official referee, but he was not, by any means, the *official* referee. In effect, Tunney condoned what DiBiase did. At press time, Tunney had made no attempt to find out: 1—How Dave Hebner was abducted, 2—Who paid off Earl Hebner, and 3—Andre's role in this situation. Tunney says the imposter referee was legal because he worked the match; whether he belonged in the ring was, in Tunney's deluded opinion, irrelevant. In other words, having the right referee in the ring isn't necessary, as long as the referee in the ring gives the illusion he belongs.

Earl didn't belong in the ring; David did. The match should have been declared invalid and the belt should have been returned to Hogan. If, after an extensive investigation, it was discovered that Andre had nothing to do with this chicanery, a rematch should have been ordered.

If, however, it is discovered that Andre was behind the dastardly deed, he should be banned from the WWF forever.

If Tunney had ruled back in January that it was illegal to sell or give the belt to another individual, as he ruled *after* the fact, this never would have happened. DiBiase wouldn't have been at ringside for the match because he wouldn't have had a stake in Andre. Instead, DiBiase would have been



Hulk Hogan directs his frustration at Earl Hebner, the imposter referee who cost him the title.

forced to win the belt on his own, using his own considerable skills and experience.

Andre, of course, wouldn't have won the title in the first place. It is now clear that Earl Hebner purposely turned his back on Hogan's five-second pin of Andre the Giant. A real official would have given the proper three-count and Hogan would still be the champ. Instead, the match continued long enough for Andre to get the pin—a pin an honest referee would never have allowed.

Final responsibility must always fall on the president of a federation. It was Tunney's job to act forcefully before this national farce occurred. Until the WWF finds a real man to be its president, the federation will be easy prey for unscrupulous individuals like DiBiase, who use the rules for their own purposes.

Unfortunately, the WWF isn't safe from DiBiase. And it certainly isn't safe from its own worst enemy: Jack Tunney. □



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## INQUIRING

(Continued from page 12)

Randy Uecker, Bethesda, MD: "DiBiase is the *real* champion because Andre gave him the belt. Let's face it: the *belt* is what's important here. Whoever has it is the champion, case closed. Ted is the champ until somebody beats him. I'm not crying for Hulk Hogan. He deserves everything that happens to him. If this happened to somebody else, Hogan wouldn't give a darn. He was a phony champion, and I'm glad he lost. Long live 'The Million-Dollar Man.' "

Douglas Ronco, Savannah, GA: "In all fairness, the title should be held up. Andre officially won the match, but there was obviously some underhandedness. They should wrestle in a cage at WrestleMania IV. That would decide the champion once and for all. With no outside interference, you'd have a real winner and a credible champion. In fact, all important title matches should be held in a cage so something like this controversy never happens."

Louise Magruder, Kansas City, MO: "There's only one WWF champion: Hulk Hogan. They couldn't beat him fair, so they had to cheat. That just proves how great Hulk is. Andre and DiBiase had to be really desperate to pay off a referee. First Andre lets Bobby Heenan destroy his career, then DiBiase moves in. Someday Andre will wake up and realize what they've done to him."

Jack Waverly, Hershey, PA: "There is no champion, and I don't think there will be a WWF champion that anyone respects for a long time because the title has been tarnished almost beyond repair. Andre, Hogan, and DiBiase have disgraced themselves immensely. He can cry and complain all he wants, but Hogan is no saint. I think that in the great scheme of things, it was time for Hogan to lose the title. But his time will come again soon."





Hogan takes Andre under control during their title match. The new champion will be determined by a tournament at WrestleMania IV.

Dwayne Urich, Tampa, FL: "With all this controversy, they should make the Intercontinental champion the World champion, and that would make The Honky Tonk Man the heavyweight champion of the world. After all, the Intercontinental champ is rated the number-one contender in your magazine. Honky Tonk would make a great World champion. How many champions do you know who can sing, dance, and play the guitar? Probably none. That's what sets Honky Tonk apart."

Cynthia Collins, Mt. Holly, NJ: "You have to consider Hogan the real champion. For four years, he took on the best the WWF has to offer, and he beat them convincingly. Nobody could touch him. Now Andre comes along and takes the belt by cheating and he gives it to DiBiase. That's not the way to be a champion. To be a champion, you have to *earn* your way to the top, like Hogan has. Only he is the *real* world champion." ☐

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**FALL 1985/Color pinup:** Steve Keirn & Stan Lane. **Stories include:** Albano & Hogan, DiBiase, Warriors, Garvin.

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**SPRING 1987/Color pinup:** The Four Horsemen. **Stories include:** Ventura, T.A., Bulldogs, Adias, Savage-Steamboat.

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**WINTER 1987/Color pinup:** Jesse Ventura. **Stories include:** Kerry, Rhodes, Hogan, Flair, Honky Tonk, DiBiase.

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## TATTLER

(Continued from page 8)

**M**INNEAPOLIS, MN: The Minneapolis Auditorium, one of the oldest arenas in the country, closed its doors to wrestling on February 4 with a gala AWA show. In the main event, Greg Gagne pinned World champion Curt Hennig in a non-title cage match.

Old-timers Red Bastien, Leo Nomellini, Hardboiled Haggerty, Butch Levy, and Karl Kovacs were on hand to greet the fans, sign autographs, and say goodbye to the Auditorium. Ray Stevens also returned to wrestle and pinned Soldat Ustinov. In one of two main events, AWA World tag team champions The Midnight Rockers defeated Mr. Go and Kevin Kelly; Mr. Go substituted for Nick Kiniski, who recently left the AWA.

The Hennig-Gagne bout was another bloody battle between these fierce rivals. Nomellini, a former AWA great, refereed the match, and was undoubtedly thankful for the absence of Verne Gagne and Larry Hennig, the fathers of the combatants. Because it was a non-title match, Hennig was more concerned with hurting Gagne than beating

him. After the loss, Hennig was his usual brash self.

"Let's see Gagne beat me when it counts," said Hennig. "He's playing right into my hands when he goes all-out in a non-title match. Gagne is burning the energy he'll need to beat me later on. What an idiot—the man can't even tell when he's being used!"

—John McCartney

**M**EMPHIS, TN: Back in October, Jerry Lawler and Bill Dundee celebrated their first world championship when they won the AWA World tag team belts from Soldat Ustinov and Doug Somers. Three months later, Lawler and Dundee, who have engaged in one of the most turbulent relationships in wrestling history, were back at each other's throats.

In early February, Dundee wrestled Jeff Jarrett for a same-day shot at Lawler's CWA heavyweight title. Dundee was disqualified for dropkicking Jarrett over the top rope, but remained in the arena for Jarrett's title match against Lawler.

During the match, Jarrett and



**MR. GO VS. SHAWN MICHAELS**





**BILL DUNDEE**

Lawler collided with referee Jerry Calhoun. Suddenly, Dundee ran into the ring with a chain, smashed the unconscious Jarrett on the head, and ran back out. Lawler and the referee then woke up in time for Lawler to pin a bloody, dazed Jarrett. After the pin, Dundee ran into the ring again and beat Jarrett to a pulp. He then attacked Lawler before a bunch of fan favorites chased him back to the dressing room.

"I'm a winner and that's it," said Dundee. "I've put up with Lawler's crap long enough, and I've learned the hard way that he's only out for himself. We'd still have the AWA belts if it wasn't for him, and he double-crossed me to win the CWA title. All I know is that this guy is pretty popular around here, but these fans don't know what they're talking about."

Lawler was stunned by Dundee's act, but realized that the two wrestlers have always had an on-again, off-again relationship. "There are times that me and Bill just don't get along," said Lawler. "Basically, it's his attitude. He can't trust anybody for too long because he's paranoid. That's why he's going nowhere. He just can't stay pointed in the right direction."

The attack by Dundee, by the way, was part of a bad week for Jarrett. Just days earlier, Max Pain and Gary Young won the vacant CWA tag team title in a tournament final against Jarrett and Manny Fernandez.

—Randy Swift ☐

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# Wrestling



Jerry Lawler

## TOP 10

- 1 RIC FLAIR**  
243, Minneapolis, MN  
NWA World champion
- 2 HULK HOGAN**  
302, Venice Beach, CA  
No. 1 contender: vacant WWF title
- 3 DUSTY RHODES**  
302, Austin, TX  
U.S. heavyweight champion
- 4 LEX LUGER**  
268, Chicago, IL  
No. 1 contender: U.S. title
- 5 CURT HENNIG**  
235, Minneapolis, MN  
AWA World champion
- 6 AL PEREZ**  
238, Tampa, FL  
World Class champion
- 7 JERRY LAWLER**  
234, Memphis, TN  
CWA heavyweight champion
- 8 RANDY SAVAGE**  
245, Sarasota, FL  
No. 1 contender: WWF I-C title
- 9 OWEN HART**  
223, Calgary, Alberta  
Stampede North American champion
- 10 MIKE ROTUNDO**  
245, Syracuse, NY  
NWA TV & Florida champion

## TAG TEAMS

- 1 TULLY BLANCHARD & ARN ANDERSON**  
Combined weight: 484 pounds  
NWA World tag team champions
- 2 RICK MARTEL & TITO SANTANA**  
Combined weight: 489 pounds  
WWF World tag team champions
- 3 BOBBY EATON & STAN LANE**  
Combined weight: 453 pounds  
U.S. tag team champions
- 4 BRETT HART & JIM NEIDHART**  
Combined weight: 515 pounds  
No. 1 contenders: WWF tag team title
- 5 THE MIDNIGHT ROCKERS**  
Combined weight: 461 pounds  
AWA World tag team champions
- 6 THE ISLANDERS**  
Combined weight: 472 pounds  
No. 3 contenders: WWF tag team title
- 7 THE BRITISH BULLDOGS**  
Combined weight: 461 pounds  
No. 2 contenders: WWF tag team title
- 8 WARLORD & BARBARIAN**  
Combined weight: 580 pounds  
No. 2 contenders to NWA tag team title
- 9 KERRY & KEVIN VON ERICH**  
Combined weight: 495 pounds  
World Class tag team champions
- 10 BRUCE HART & BRIAN PILLMAN**  
Combined weight: 437 pounds  
Stampede Int'l tag team champions

## NWA

### World Champion:

#### RIC FLAIR

243, Minneapolis, MN

- 1—DUSTY RHODES**  
302, Austin, TX
- 2—STING**  
270, Venice Beach, CA
- 3—LEX LUGER**  
268, Chicago, IL
- 4—LARRY ZBYSZKO**  
248, Pittsburgh, PA
- 5—BARRY WINDHAM**  
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- 10—RONNIE GARVIN**  
231, Montreal, Quebec

## AWA

### World Champion:

#### CURT HENNIG

235, Minneapolis, MN

- 1—GREG GAGNE**  
220, Robbinsdale, MN
- 2—TOM ZENK**  
237, Robbinsdale, MN
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260, Midland, TX
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271, Oakland, CA
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312, New York, NY
- 6—JERRY LAWLER**  
234, Memphis, TN
- 7—BOB ORTON JR.**  
232, St. Louis, MO
- 8—NORD THE BARBARIAN**  
316, Bozeman, MT
- 9—SOLDAT USTINOV**  
265, Moscow, Russia
- 10 BARON VON RASCHKE**  
271, Germany

## WWF

### World Champion:

#### TITLE VACANT

to be filled at WrestleMania IV

- 1—THE HONKY TONK MAN**  
255, Memphis, TN
- 2—HULK HOGAN**  
302, Venice Beach, CA
- 3—ANDRE THE GIANT**  
497, Grenoble, France
- 4—TED DiBIASE**  
247, Omaha, NB
- 5—BAM BAM BIGELOW**  
368, Mt. Laurel, NJ
- 6—RANDY SAVAGE**  
245, Sarasota, FL
- 7—HACKSAW DUGGAN**  
280, Glens Falls, NY
- 8—RICK STEAMBOAT**  
238, Honolulu, HI
- 9—JAKE ROBERTS**  
246, Stone Mountain, GA
- 10—GREG VALENTINE**  
243, Seattle, WA

## WORLD CLASS

### World Class Champion:

#### AL PEREZ

238, Tampa, FL

- 1—CHRIS ADAMS**  
228, Stratford, England
- 2—TERRY GORDY**  
289, Chattanooga, TN
- 3—KERRY VON ERICH**  
260, Denton, TX
- 4—KEVIN VON ERICH**  
235, Denton, TX
- 5—MATT BORNE**  
235, Portland, OR
- 6—ERIC EMBRY**  
225, Lexington, KY
- 7—SHAUN SIMPSON**  
200, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 8—BRIAN ADIAS**  
238, Denton, TX
- 9—STEVE SIMPSON**  
215, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 10—TERRY TAYLOR**  
225, Vero Beach, FL



# OFFICIAL RATINGS

Top 10 and Tag Team ratings are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and inherent skill of each wrestler or team. These ratings are compiled by the magazine's editorial board. Most Popular and Most Hated ratings are based on nationwide telephone and arena surveys of wrestling fans and on the volume and character of mail that comes to our offices. All other ratings are based on the official current positions of challengers to the top title in each category; certain titleholders receive an automatic spot in the ratings.

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- 1 HULK HOGAN**  
302, Venice Beach, CA  
Last issue: No. 1 Most Popular
- 2 LEX LUGER**  
268, Chicago, IL  
Last issue: No. 2 Most Popular
- 3 DUSTY RHODES**  
302, Austin, TX  
Last issue: No. 3 Most Popular
- 4 RANDY SAVAGE**  
245, Sarasota, FL  
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- 5 STING**  
270, Venice Beach, CA  
Last issue: No. 6 Most Popular
- 6 KERRY VON ERICH**  
260, Denton, TX  
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- 7 HACKSAW DUGGAN**  
280, Glens Falls, NY  
Last issue: unrated
- 8 BARRY WINDHAM**  
236, Sweetwater, TX  
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- 9 JERRY LAWLER**  
234, Memphis, TN  
Last issue: No. 10 Most Popular
- 10 OWEN HART**  
223, Calgary, Alberta  
Last issue: unrated

## MOST HATED

- 1 ANDRE THE GIANT**  
497, Grenoble, France  
Last issue: No. 1 Most Hated
- 2 TED DIBIASE**  
247, Omaha, NB  
Last issue: No. 2 Most Hated
- 3 RIC FLAIR**  
243, Minneapolis, MN  
Last issue: No. 3 Most Hated
- 4 LARRY ZBYSZKO**  
248, Pittsburgh, PA  
Last issue: unrated
- 5 THE HONKY TONK MAN**  
255, Memphis, TN  
Last issue: No. 4 Most Hated
- 6 TULLY BLANCHARD**  
235, San Antonio, TX  
Last issue: No. 5 Most Hated
- 7 CURT HENNIG**  
235, Minneapolis, MN  
Last issue: No. 6 Most Hated
- 8 TERRY GORDY**  
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249, Minneapolis, MN  
Last issue: No. 7 Most Hated
- 10 RICK RUDE**  
246, Robbinsdale, MN  
Last issue: No. 10 Most Hated

For period ended February 12, 1988

## CUMULATIVE RATINGS

These ratings are based on the past 10 issues of this magazine. We have examined our ratings for each of those issues—in our Top 10 and Tag Team categories only—and assigned each position a point value: 10 points for a number-one rating, nine for a number-two ranking, and so on down to one point for a number-10 rating. The point values for all wrestlers in the past 10 issues have been compiled, allowing a maximum of 100 points. Each issue we'll present the top five finishers in each category. While our regular ratings reflect the past month, these cumulative ratings give an indication of wider trends in the sport.

### SINGLES

- 1—HULK HOGAN ..... 95 points
- 2—RIC FLAIR ..... 93 points
- 3—LEX LUGER ..... 60 points
- 4—NIKITA KOLOFF ..... 53 points
- 5—BARRY WINDHAM ..... 51 points

### TAG TEAMS

- 1—THE ROAD WARRIORS ..... 90 points
- 2—THE HART FOUNDATION ..... 77 points
- 3—BOBBY EATON & STAN LANE ..... 66 points
- 4—TULLY BLANCHARD & ARN ANDERSON ... 58 points
- 5—THE ROCK 'N' ROLL EXPRESS ..... 46 points

## STAMPEDE

North American Champion:  
**OWEN HART**

223, Calgary, Alberta

- 1—GAMA SINGH**  
220, Karachi, Pakistan
- 2—MAKHAN SINGH**  
380, Saginaw, MI
- 3—JASON THE TERRIBLE**  
270, parts unknown
- 4—BRIAN PILLMAN**  
226, Cincinnati, OH
- 5—CHRIS BENOIT**  
218, Edmonton, Alberta
- 6—STEVE DISALVO**  
298, Boston, MA
- 7—HIRO HASE**  
226, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
- 8—BRUCE HART**  
211, Calgary, Alberta
- 9—KERRY BROWN**  
225, Kansas City, MO
- 10—RIP ROGERS**  
238, Atlanta, GA

## CWA

CWA Champion:  
**JERRY LAWLER**

234, Memphis, TN

- 1—BILL DUNDEE**  
214, Melbourne, Australia
- 2—MANNY FERNANDEZ**  
245, El Paso, TX
- 3—JEFF JARRETT**  
200, Hendersonville, TN
- 4—JIMMY JACK FUNK**  
243, Portland, OR
- 5—DON BASS**  
230, Memphis, TN
- 6—BILLY TRAVIS**  
218, Houston, TX
- 7—GARY YOUNG**  
240, Houston, TX
- 8—MAX PAIN**  
350, Iowa City, IA
- 9—TEIHO KHAN**  
232, Singapore
- 10—RICKY NELSON**  
220, Greensboro, NC

## CONTINENTAL

Continental Champion:  
**LORD HUMONGOUS**

325, parts unknown

- 1—DUTCH MANTEL**  
224, Oil Trough, TX
- 2—DOUG FURNAS**  
265, Commerce, OK
- 3—DAN DAVIS**  
238, Nashville, TN
- 4—WENDELL COOLEY**  
220, Milton, FL
- 5—TOM PRITCHARD**  
220, Houston, TX
- 6—THE BULLET**  
234, parts unknown
- 7—TONY ANTHONY**  
235, Bucksnorth, TN
- 8—ROBERT FULLER**  
238, Dyresburg, TN
- 9—JIMMY GOLDEN**  
235, Montgomery, AL
- 10—SCOTT HALL**  
290, Minneapolis, MN

## JR. HEAVYWEIGHTS

- 1—NELSON ROYAL**  
NWA champion
- 2—ERIC EMBRY**  
World Class champion
- 3—HURRICANE CASTILLO**  
WWC champion
- 4—DENNY BROWN**  
No. 1 contender: NWA title
- 5—SHAUN SIMPSON**  
No. 1 contender: WCCW title
- 6—EL GRAN MENDOZA**  
No. 1 contender: WWC title
- 7—MASANOBU FUCHI**  
All-Japan champion
- 8—HIRO HASE**  
Int. Grand Prix champion
- 9—MIKE JACKSON**  
No. 2 contender: NWA title
- 10—MIKE GRAHAM**  
No. 3 contender: NWA title

# RATINGS ANALYSIS

**Every month, this column will tell fans how we go about rating more than 135 wrestlers in 12 different categories. It is a behind-the-scenes look at the most important—and respected—ratings system in the sport. This column is vital reading for all wrestling fans.**

**WWF World Title Vacated!** And the controversy WWF President Jack Tunney's decision created in the wrestling world was equaled only by the controversy it created in the offices of *Sports Review Wrestling* and its sister publications.



**Hulk Hogan**

Tapes of the **Andre the Giant vs. Hulk Hogan** match on February 5 in Indianapolis made it clear that Hogan lifted his shoulder at or just before the two-count. The three-count shouldn't have counted, but it did because Tunney decided to let the imposter official's decision stand. If Andre hadn't turned over the title to DiBiase, Andre would have been the World champion, **The Honky Tonk Man**, as Intercontinental champion,

would have been the number-one contender, and **Hulk Hogan** would have dropped to number two, and third overall.

When Andre gave the belt to DiBiase, Tunney chose to vacate the title and order a title tournament at WrestleMania IV. So we had to make a decision. Since there is no WWF World champion, is the Intercontinental champion still the number-one contender?

Senior Editor **Bill Apter** said no. "Hogan wasn't pinned, the belt was vacated, and he was beaten illegally. It's ridiculous to rate Honky Tonk over Hogan, or even Andre, when those two are the top contenders to the belt." Editor-in-Chief **Stu Saks**, however, had a different opinion. "The rule is that the I-C champ is the number-one contender. There's no reason to change things now."

So: Honky Tonk is the number-one contender to the vacant WWF World title, Hogan was placed second, and Andre is number three. Of course, all of this will be settled on March 27 in Atlantic City—at WrestleMania IV.

By the way, since Hogan wasn't actually pinned, a decision was reached to keep him in the number-two spot in our Top 10 ratings. In fact, Hogan actually had the match won at eight minutes and 30 seconds when he pinned Andre for five seconds while the referee's back was turned. The February 5 bout didn't hurt Hogan's reputation at all—except, perhaps, as a good loser.

**The Warriors Are Out!** With Road Warrior Animal having been injured by Warlord and Konga the Barbarian, **Paul Ellering** has been teaming with Road Warrior Hawk in matches around the country. As a result, **The Road Warriors** have dropped out of the tag team ratings this month.

**Most Popular Tag Teams.** We ran this feature last year, and the tag team picture has changed considerably since then.

So we thought it would be a good idea to run it again, since the Most Popular Tag Team ratings were well received the first time around. As is the case with our monthly Most Popular and Most Hated categories, these ratings are based on nationwide telephone and arena surveys of wrestling fans and on the volume and character of mail that comes to our office. We'd like to hear what you think. Next month, we'll do the Most Hated tag teams.

## MOST POPULAR TAG TEAMS

- 1—**THE ROAD WARRIORS**  
*All-Japan Int'l tag team champions*
- 2—**STRIKE FORCE**  
*WWF World tag team champions*
- 3—**DUSTY RHODES & LEX LUGER**  
*No. 2 contenders to NWA tag team title*
- 4—**THE BRITISH BULLDOGS**  
*No. 2 contenders to WWF tag team title*
- 5—**KERRY & KEVIN VON ERICH**  
*World Class tag team champions*
- 6—**THE MIDNIGHT ROCKERS**  
*AWA World tag team champions*
- 7—**BILL DUNDEE & JERRY LAWLER**  
*No. 1 contenders to CWA tag team title*
- 8—**THE FANTASTICS**  
*No. 1 contenders to WCCW tag team title*
- 9—**BRUCE HART & BRIAN PILLMAN**  
*Stampede Int'l tag team champions*
- 10—**THE KILLER BEES**  
*No. 4 contenders to WWF tag team title*



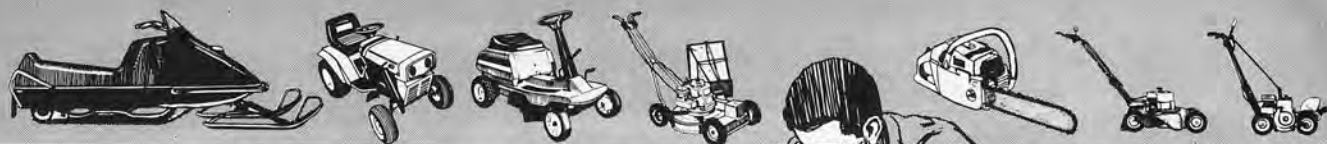
**Dynamite Kid**

and **Davey Boy Smith** all once wrestled as junior heavyweights at one time in their careers.

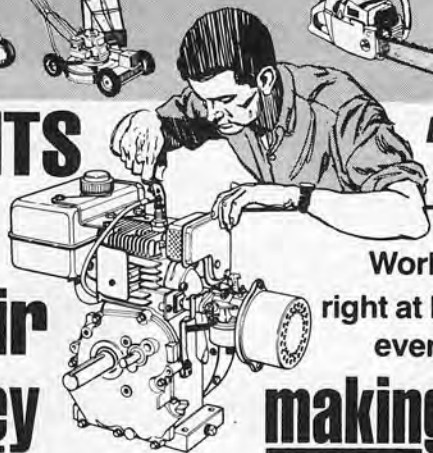
**Make way for the lightweights!** Actually, they're called junior heavyweights, and they take center stage in this month's revolving ratings category. As a rule, junior heavyweights are among the finest scientific wrestlers in the country. They may not be big enough to brawl, so they rely on agility, stamina, and skill—generally resulting in fast-paced action. **Eddie Gilbert**, **Curt Hennig**, **Brett Hart**, **Dynamite Kid**,

**Keep sending the mail!** We want to know what you think, and we'd like to hear about any new ratings ideas you might have. Send your comments to: "Ratings Analysis," c/o *Sports Review Wrestling*, Box 48, Rockville Centre, NY 11571. □





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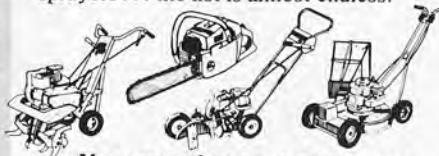
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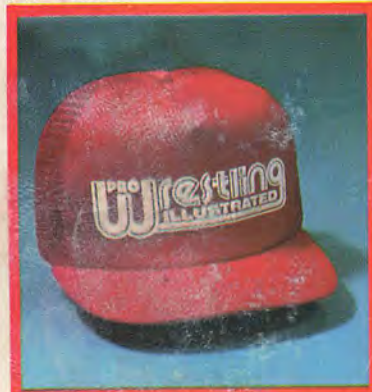
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